

The Republican.



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MASS LIVE



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VOTING RIGHTS BATTLE

The battle among Texas lawmakers over a bill that would impose strict limits on voting access escalated yesterday, Page A2



TODAY'S MUST-READS

NORTHAMPTON Mental health response targeted

Northampton's push to create a department of unarmed emergency responders could receive a \$150,000 boost if an approved amendment from state Sen. Jo Comerford makes the cut in the 2022 budget that eventually lands on Gov. Charlie Baker's desk.

The proposed \$150,000 investment would complement the \$424,000 Mayor David Narkewicz recently proposed to establish the Department of Community Care.

Full story, Page A5

SPRINGFIELD

Negotiations down to the wire at charter school

With their contract now expired, the Sabis International Charter School board of trustees and Springfield Education Management LLC have not come to an agreement to renew it.

Springfield Education Management is the local representative of the Sabis Network.

Full story, Page A3

CHICOPEE

Council weighs pot cultivation proposal

The City Council tonight will consider a proposal to allow a \$15 million marijuana cultivation facility to be located in a former industrial building.

The council's zoning committee voted 4-0 on May 27 to recommend Mass Alternative Care Inc. be granted a special permit for a 56,000-square-foot cannabis cultivation facility at 77 Champion Drive.

Full story, Page A5

WEATHER

Clouds and sun, warmer. High: 77°; Low: 50°

EXPANDED WEATHER, A10



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AGAWAM

Crowds return for Memorial Day

Holiday weekend marks end of COVID restrictions

BY JIM KINNEY

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Steve Cimma, an Air Force veteran, member of Agawam American Legion Post 185 and one of the organizers behind the town's Memorial Day observances, wove his way through a crowd of onlookers Monday and peered up Main Street toward the distant sound of advancing marchers.

"This does us good," he said of the parade. "It's good to see people coming together again. It's good to see people honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice."

For many around Massachusetts, Memorial Day marked the first time attending a public gathering in more than a year. Agawam, like most communities, did not have in-person Memorial

INSIDE

- Families remember those who served, Page A8
- Green Beret's name added to war memorial, Page A8

Day observances last year because of the coronavirus pandemic. As more people get vaccinated and new cases wane, the state this weekend lifted its remaining COVID-19 restrictions.

Cimma said that in addition to Monday's parade, people attended a series of commemorations veterans hosted at Agawam's cemeteries and on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge.

SEE MEMORIAL, PAGE A7



Jack Miller of VFW Post 8006 plays taps yesterday at Park Street Cemetery during a ceremony following the 153rd Veterans Council of Northampton Memorial Day Parade in Florence. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)

REMEMBERING THE 2011 TORNADO | 10 YEARS LATER



"It's been very transformative, the impact of the resources that were invested in our neighborhood."

MELVIN EDWARDS, PRESIDENT OF THE MAPLE HIGH-SIX CORNERS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Melvin Edwards, left, takes a walk on Central Street, where the tornado hit the area 10 years ago, as shown below. New homes replaced those lost in the storm. (HOANG 'LEON' NGUYEN / THE REPUBLICAN)



(THE REPUBLICAN FILE PHOTO)

Rebuild(ing) Springfield from 'war zone'

Neighborhoods are 'bigger, better, stronger'

BY PETER GOONAN

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Ten years after a tornado tore a path of destruction through Springfield and the region, many still remember where they were and what they did that day, and how they never gave up on the City of Homes.

Today, city officials and residents say the Rebuild Springfield effort resulted in an "amazing" comeback and transformation, including new and renovated housing, new schools, restored parks and roadways, and reforestation of thousands of trees.

A can-do attitude grew out of the disaster, according to city officials and neighborhood activists.

"People didn't want to leave," Mayor Domenic J. Sarno says. "They stayed. They rebuilt in all the neighborhoods — bigger, better and stronger."

The total cost of the tornado recovery was approximately \$138 million.

SEE TORNADO, PAGE A6



State National Guard troops keep watch over a closed-off section of Central Street in Springfield the day after the 2011 tornado. (THE REPUBLICAN FILE PHOTO)

The total cost of the tornado recovery was approximately \$138 million, primarily involving city, state and federal disaster funds, as well as school construction grants from the state.

CHICOPEE

Gaming panel OKs traffic study grant

West Springfield request denied

BY PETER GOONAN

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The Massachusetts Gaming Commission recently approved a \$200,000 roadway improvement planning grant for downtown Chicopee, but denied a request for additional funds for the partial redesign of Elm Street in West Springfield.

In both cases, the cities were seeking the funds paid by Massachusetts casinos, including MGM Springfield, to mitigate adverse impacts they have on surrounding communities like increased traffic.

Chicopee plans to use the \$200,000 to hire a consultant to evaluate and improve traffic in downtown Chicopee, studying "automobile movement patterns; traffic volumes; parking; bike networks; pedestrian networks; public bus routes; and connections to regional systems," according to a summary from the commission's Mitigation Fund Review Committee.

The grant will help with the development of conceptual designs and recommendations, including gathering public comment, before moving to the final design, the review team said.

MGM Springfield's original impact analysis stated that approximately 4.5% of the traffic generated by the casino will travel on Chicopee roads, including through Chicopee Center.

MGM Springfield and the state Department of Transportation supported Chicopee's request for the mitigation funds, and it was approved by a 4-0 vote of the commission. The \$200,000 amount is the maximum annual award for transportation planning grants.

West Springfield, which has received multiple mitigation grants in recent years, was denied its most recent request for \$147,600 by a 4-0 vote.

In 2017, the commission approved a grant to improve traffic

SEE TRAFFIC, PAGE A2

BEIJING

China says it will allow couples to have 3 children

2-child policy has failed to raise country's declining birthrates

BY SUI-LEE WEE

Associated Press

China said yesterday that it would allow all married couples to have three children, ending a two-child policy that has failed to raise the country's declining birthrates and avert a demographic crisis.

The announcement by the ruling Communist Party represents an acknowledgment that its limits on reproduction, the world's toughest, have jeopardized the country's future. The labor pool is shrinking and the population is graying, threatening the industrial strategy that China has used for decades to emerge from poverty to become an economic powerhouse.

But it is far from clear that relaxing the policy further will pay off. People in China have responded coolly to the party's earlier move, in 2016, to allow couples to have two children. To them, such measures do little to assuage their anxiety over the rising cost of education and of supporting aging parents, made worse by the lack of day care and the pervasive culture of long work hours.

In a nod to those concerns, the party also indicated Monday that it would improve maternity leave and workplace protections, pledging to make it easier for couples to have more children. But those protections are all but absent for single mothers in China, who despite the push for more children still lack access to benefits.

Births in China have fallen for four consecutive years, including in 2020, when the number of babies born dropped to the lowest since the era of former Communist Chairman Mao Zedong. The country's total fertility rate — an estimate of the number of children born over a woman's lifetime — now stands at 1.3, well below the replacement rate of 2.1, raising the possibility of a shrinking population over time.

The announcement Monday still splits the difference between individual reproductive rights and government limits over women's bodies. Prominent voices within China have called on the party to scrap its restrictions on births altogether. But Beijing, under Xi Jinping, the party leader who has pushed for greater control in the daily lives of the country's 1.4 billion people, has resisted.

"Opening it up to three children is far from enough," said Huang Wenzheng, a demography expert with the Center for China and Globalization, a Beijing-based research center. "It should be fully liberalized, and giving birth should be strongly encouraged."

"This should be regarded as a crisis for the survival of the Chinese nation, even beyond the pandemic and other environmental issues," Huang added. "There should never have been a birth restriction policy in the first place. So it's not a question of whether this is too late."

The party made the announcement after a meeting by the Politburo, a top decision-making body, although it was not immediately clear when the change would take effect.

AUSTIN, TEXAS

Texas voting battles escalate

BY PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

Midnight was coming fast. Any moment now, the Texas House of Representatives would sign off on one of the most restrictive new voting laws in America.

It was 10:35 p.m. Suddenly, every Democrat still on the floor got a text message.

"Members, take your key and leave the chamber discreetly. Do not go to the gallery. Leave the building."

The walkout was a go, and minutes later, Senate Bill 7 was dead. Left without enough House members to conduct business under the rules before a midnight deadline Sunday, Texas Republicans were forced to abandon for now an elections overhaul they had crammed with previously unseen restrictions during closed-door negotiations, including one prohibiting Sunday morning early voting — a time widely used by Black churchgoers in "souls to the polls" campaigns.

It was a dramatic, last-ditch revolt: One by one, Democrats headed for the exits and disappeared down corridors. The voting machines on their abandoned desks were locked.

In the unlikely event of a "call of the House" — an extreme remedy to secure a quorum, mobilizing state troopers to forcibly bring absent members back — Democrats chose a hideout that was unmistakable in meaning: Mt. Zion Baptist Church, a Black house of worship more than 2 miles away.

The rebellion gave Democrats and voting rights allies nationwide a morale-raising moment after months of racking up losses in GOP-controlled statehouses, where Republicans have rushed to enact a wave of strict voting laws in response to former President Donald Trump's false claims that the 2020 election was stolen from him.

But the walkout in Texas is likely only a fleeting victory: Republican Gov. Greg Abbott, who had declared new voting laws a priority in Texas, barely waited for every Democrat to flee the House floor before



Gary Bledsoe, president of the Texas NAACP, left, shakes hands with state Rep. Ron Reynolds, D-Missouri City, after they spoke at a news conference against Senate Bill 7, known as the Election Integrity Protection Act, at the Capitol in Austin, Texas, on Sunday. (JAY JANNER / AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN VIA AP)

declaring that he would order a special session to finish the job. And he's already begun punishing lawmakers, saying yesterday that he would veto the part of the state budget that funds legislators' salaries.

"No pay for those who abandon their responsibilities," Abbott tweeted.

He has not said when he will drag lawmakers back to work.

"I understand why they were doing it," said Republican state Rep. Briscoe Cain, who carried the bill in the House. "But we all took an oath to Texans that we would be here to do our jobs."

Coming in at 67 pages long, the Texas bill would have reduced polling hours, empowered poll watchers and scaled back ways to vote. It included a ban on drive-thru voting centers and 24-hour polling places, both of which were used last year around Houston, reflecting how Republicans went after Texas' largest Democratic stronghold.

Many were ideas that Democrats had spent months fighting, but they protested that others were stuck in at the last minute. That included not just new early voting limits for Sunday but also a provision that could make it easier to overturn an election. Under the bill, a judge could void a candidate's victory if the number of fraudulent votes cast could change the outcome, regardless of whether it was proved that

ly 20 years that Democrats had staged a quorum break in Texas.

The meltdown of the Texas bill was a rare victory for Democrats in a year that has seen 14 states enact new laws tightening voting restrictions, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, a voting rights group. These laws have typically been muscled through by Republican-controlled state legislatures and signed swiftly by GOP governors. The Democrats' potential remedy to the wave of restrictions — a sweeping national voting bill — is bogged down in Congress.

"We've been getting example after example in Republican state legislatures, and this is the culmination in terms of its raw racism and cutting back of the ability for brown and Black voters to vote," said Fred Wertheimer, founder of the voting rights group Democracy 21. "The way they're fighting in Texas tells a story of just how bad this legislation is and how

Democrats are prepared to do everything they can conceive of to stop this legislation from happening."

Democrats and voting rights groups also hope that Texas gives a shot in the arm to the bill in Congress, known as the For the People Act or HR1. The measure has been stalled in the Senate because some Democrats are not willing to end the filibuster. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has scheduled debate on the bill to begin in late June in hopes of breaking the impasse, and activists hope the boldness of Texas Democrats in using quorum rules to block legislation will push their Washington, D.C., counterparts to eliminate such rules in the U.S. Senate.

At the least, Democrats hope the walkout bought them some time. When they left the church, it was after midnight.

"We may have won the war tonight but the battle is not over," Democratic state Rep. Nicole Collier said.

Associated Press writers Nicolas Riccardi in Denver and Acacia Coronado contributed to this report.

LOTTERIES

MASS. DAILY NUMBERS

Monday, May 31

	Mid Day	Evening	MASS CASH
All 4	\$4,767	\$5,968	May 31
First or last 3	\$667	\$836	Not available
Any 2	\$57	\$72	May 30
Any 1	\$6	\$7	May 29
Exact order			1-2-28-30-32
All 4	\$397	\$497	MEGABUCKS
First 3	\$222	\$279	May 29
Last 3	\$111	\$279	15-25-27-38-46-48
Previous numbers drawn			Doubler: 4
Sunday	1496	7549	<i>Estimated jackpot: \$1.7 million</i>
Saturday	2488	5248	May 26
Friday	6951	6200	17-18-30-34-47-48
Thursday	8664	1886	Doubler: 0
Wednesday	5700	8764	
Tuesday	8162	7367	

MEGA MILLIONS

May 28 10-14-20-47-70
Powerball: 20; Power Play: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$268 million

May 25 14-21-31-34-54
Megaball: 11; Megaplier: 3

POWERBALL

May 29 11-13-22-27-46
Powerball: 20; Power Play: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$268 million

May 26 2-8-21-34-62
Powerball: 16; Power Play: 2

FALLON, NEV.

Mobile vaccination units hit tiny US towns

BY SCOTT SONNER AND SAM METZ

Associated Press

Pick-up truck drivers motor up to a white trailer in a parking lot on Fallon Paiute-Shoshone land in Nevada's high desert and within a few moments they're handed forms to sign, jabbed with coronavirus vaccine and sent on their way.

The pop-up clinic 60 miles east of Reno is one of 28 locations in the state where the Federal Emergency Management Agency has dispatched mobile vaccination units to ensure people in far-flung rural areas and one stop-light towns can get inoculated.

It's one of the tactics health officials are using across the country to counter waning interest in vaccinations. In tiny towns, churches, ballparks, strip clubs and even marijuana dispensaries, officials are setting up shop and offering

"I told them I was just so thankful that they were volunteering their time to help get us back to normal so

incentives to entice people as the nation struggles to reach herd immunity.

In Nevada, health officials acknowledge they're unlikely to hit their initial goal of vaccinating 75% of the population believed necessary to reach herd immunity. Ironically, their push in northern Nevada is headquartered at the Reno Livestock Events Center, where 65-year-old Dan Lively and others are showing up for shots.

Lively said he teared up while thanking the nurses who vaccinated him.

"I told them I was just so thankful that they were volunteering their time to help get us back to normal so

I can go shop at the mall or go to the beach at Lake Tahoe," said Lively, who works at a big box store in neighboring Sparks. Waiting to get vaccinated had nothing to do with safety concerns or distrust of the government, he said.

"It was a scheduling deal. Plus, my middle name is procrastinator," Lively said.

Two FEMA mobile trailers have meandered through Nevada to towns without pharmacies, clinics or other vaccination sites, giving doctors, nurses and National Guardsmen a first-hand look at rural and tribal communities where finding vaccinations has been difficult for residents.

"That's our philosophy: it doesn't make any difference if there are two (people) nor 200," said Peggy Franklin, a volunteer nurse who has traveled alongside a FEMA trailer to Fallon, Alamo, Panaca and other towns.

To preserve the vaccine, the trailers are equipped with ultra-cold refrigerators powered by generators-on-wheels. On Monday, the two mobile clinics completed six-week loops through Nevada that included returning to finish two-shot regimens in the state that covers an area that would stretch from Boston to Baltimore and Buffalo, New York.

TODAY'S OBITUARIES

Listed by name, these obituaries can be found in today's paper. You may view these obituaries and sign the guest book at masslive.com/obituaries.

Dewey, Robert
Fox, Barbara
Gallo, Angelo

Ubertalli, James
Witek, Maureen
Zera, John

To place an obituary, please contact Classified-obits@repub.com or call 413-788-1262.

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Traffic

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flow and safety on Elm Street due to an increase in traffic from MGM Springfield.

The town was seeking additional funds to redesign a portion of the project in order to relocate and extend bike lanes while addressing concerns about the loss of on-street parking, commission officials said. West Springfield was also seeking

to extend the project onto Southworth Street, and to use some of the mitigation funds to purchase traffic counting equipment.

Joseph Delaney, the commission's project oversight manager, said the redesign could have been avoided if the parking issues were addressed earlier in the process. In addition, the review committee could not identify an impact from the casino that was associated with the expansion of the project.

Delaney said the road project is being done in association with the construction of a new school to replace the Coburn School on Southworth Street.

"While an increase of traffic at that location may be of concern, that new traffic is an impact of the school and not the casino," Delaney said, adding that there was not a breakdown of what cost was related to the casino.

Commission members including chairwoman Cathy

Judd-Stein said they might have been agreeable to a partial mitigation grant if a breakdown of costs related to the casino could be provided.

West Springfield, in submitting the grant application and in providing supplemental information, stated that "the potential increase of traffic from Southworth St. onto Elm St. would conflict with traffic destined for the Casino originating from Route 20."



Andy Yee of Bean Restaurant Group stands in front of the White Hut food truck in June 2020. Yee's family and Peter Picknelly brought the 80-year-old business back after it closed earlier in the year. Yee died last week. (HOANG 'LEON' NGUYEN / THE REPUBLICAN FILE PHOTO)

WEST SPRINGFIELD

Restaurateur honored with discount hot dogs

By JIM KINNEY
jkinney@repub.com

The White Hut will celebrate the life of Andy Yee later this week by offering 60-cent hot dogs and fountain drinks.

The restaurateur would have turned 60 this weekend. He died May 27 in Springfield after a recurrence of cancer. His funeral is Thursday at St. Theresa's Church in South Hadley.

Yee and his partners — his family-run Bean Restaurant Group, businessman Peter Picknelly and others — stepped in last year to reopen the White Hut when it closed abruptly after more than 80 years in business.

"It seems like some of the stars are really starting to align," Yee said weeks before the grand reopening that summer. "We are not

White Hut will offer its discounted hot dogs and fountain drinks Friday through Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

lacking for enthusiasm."

He, Picknelly and business consultants Michael K. Vann and Kevin B. Vann had already partnered to rescue and reopen The Student Prince Cafe and The Fort Dining Room in Springfield in 2014.

Yee's obituary rattles off the dizzying variety of restaurants he'd been involved with over the years.

Yee grew up in the local restaurant business, first at his parents' Hu Ke Lau in Chi-

opee. The Bean Restaurant Group's locations are Johnny's Bar and Grille, Johnny's Tavern, Johnny's Tap Room, and Johnny's Roadside Diner, along with Iya Sushi & Noodle Kitchen and the Halfway House Lounge.

The Student Prince partnership developed Union Kitchen; The Boathouse; Wurst House locations in Northampton, Connecticut and at The Big E; and most recently White Hut.

Recently, his family said, Yee was instrumental in helping to establish the Tigers Den at South Hadley High School as a culinary program that offers internships and hands-on learning for students.

White Hut will offer its discounted hot dogs and fountain drinks Friday through Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

SPRINGFIELD

Contract negotiations down to the wire at charter school

Meeting set tonight

By ELIZABETH ROMÁN
eroman@repub.com

With their contract now expired, the Sabis International Charter School board of trustees and Springfield Education Management LLC have not come to an agreement to renew it.

Springfield Education Management is the local representative of the Sabis Network, which provides the curriculum for schools around the world, including the Holyoke Community Charter School.

In Springfield, negotiations have been ongoing since February 2020, but the contract, which was already extended, expired May 31. If the board and the management company do not come to an agreement, the school will lose the right to use the Sabis name and curriculum.

A meeting scheduled May 27 to discuss the situation was rescheduled for tonight at 6 since Monday was a national holiday. The online meeting will be open to the public.

The conflict is over who has authority over the school director. Under the current contract, the director reports to Sabis. The 12-member board of trustees is divided as to who should have that control, although the majority voted on April 15 and again on May 20 in favor of the board taking over.

Atu White, trustees chairman, said he believes it is time for the board to have autonomy over the director based on information he received from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The department granted Sabis a charter renewal for 2021-25 based on several conditions. The department said the board of trustees "has not consistently provided adequate oversight of the school's relationship with Springfield Education Management" and requested that

"(Younger teachers) are afraid for what's to come and many of them are going to jump ship. Unfortunately this conflict is ultimately going to affect the children we are here to provide for."

Danelle Skorka, longtime teacher at Sabis International Charter School

the board submit a proposed contract that "ensures the autonomy and authority of the school's board of trustees."

White also believes that, with an approximate fee of \$2.5 million a year, Springfield Education Management should be making improvements in another area the state highlighted — the academic performance of students in grades 3-8 in mathematics, English language arts and science.

"This is the first time in the history of the school that we have had back-to-back conditional renewals. While there are a lot of bright areas and great things going on at our school, we cannot ignore the second conditional renewal that is heavily reflected upon our third through eighth grades," he said.

Board member John Delaney said that while there can always be improvements, he believes Sabis has effectively managed the school for the past 26 years.

"I have a long, deep-rooted history with the school itself. My daughter was on the waiting list for many years because she was struggling at her previous school. She got in eighth grade and it really changed her life," he said, adding that his son is currently a student there and thrives despite academic struggles.

Since opening in 1995, the school has maintained a nearly a 100% graduation rate, Delaney said, with most students going onto two- or four-year colleges.

If an agreement cannot be reached on the wording of the contract, another option would be for the board to purchase a licensing agreement

from Sabis, which would allow it to retain the name and the curriculum while still exerting control over the director.

White said if an effective director is heading the school there is no need to go through a management company.

"If there were no SEM, the board would not handle the day-to-day operations. The school director would be responsible for that," he said. "If you have a fully functioning, capable and competent director, they can run the day-to-day operations. They don't need hand-holding."

Danelle Skorka has been a teacher at Sabis for more than 21 years. She has been listening in to the recent meetings and is hopeful that the board will come to an agreement with Sabis.

"I think the staff has fought hard for many years to keep the Sabis name alive because we have serviced children of the city of Springfield who would not have made it in the public schools," she said. "I run into students who are now in their 20s and 30s and they are proud of having graduated from Sabis. We have so many success stories."

Skorka said she has been through many charter renewals and contract negotiations, but this one seems to be extremely negative.

"I feel like the board and Sabis really need to come to some sort of agreement because many teachers, especially younger ones, are not going to continue holding off while they resolve this," she said. "They are afraid for what's to come and many of them are going to jump ship."

JERUSALEM

Israel on edge as politicians wrangle over ousting Netanyahu

Israel's political class was locked in frenzied horse trading yesterday

By PATRICK KINGSLY

New York Times

Israel's political class was locked in frenzied horse trading yesterday, as opposition politicians struggled to strike a coalition deal to oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who in turn was waging a last-ditch effort to cling to power.

The bartering put a spotlight on the fragmentation of the Israeli political system, in which the short-term fate of the Israeli state — nearly paralyzed after four elections in two years, unsettled by a recent war and civil unrest, bruised by the pandemic and constrained by the lack of a state budget — was in the hands of a panoply of small political parties haggling over control of minor government offices like the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The granular nature of the discussions belied their dramatic implication: Netanyahu — Israel's longest-serving prime minister, and the man who has shaped contemporary Israel more than any other citizen — has never been so close to losing office. And yet, with just two days remaining for the opposition to secure a deal, his departure is still far from a foregone conclusion.

"It's not over till it's over," said Rachel Azaria, a centrist former lawmaker and author of a recent book about social

"We had the war and we had the riots, and we don't have a budget. And people are kind of like: 'Just find a way to make it work.'"

Rachel Azaria, centrist former lawmaker

change in Israel. "There's a joke now on WhatsApp and Twitter and Facebook: The rest of the world is still stuck in COVID. We're four tragedies later."

"We had the war and we had the riots, and we don't have a budget," Azaria added. "And people are kind of like: 'Just find a way to make it work.'"

The door was opened Sunday when Naftali Bennett, an ultranationalist power broker, made an 11th-hour decision to join forces with an anti-Netanyahu bloc of parties, significantly raising the chances of ousting Netanyahu by a Wednesday night deadline.

Bennett leads a small hard-right party with just seven seats in parliament. But he holds the balance of power, since Netanyahu, whom he once served as chief of staff, cannot be replaced without his support.

Since an inconclusive general election in March, the fourth since April 2019, Bennett had avoided throwing his lot with the opposition, whose ideologies range from the far-right to the left — largely because he was wary

of joining a government of such ideological diversity.

But Sunday, he announced his willingness to thrash out a coalition deal with the leader of the opposition, Yair Lapid, declaring that the danger of prolonging the political stasis outweighed the ideological cost of joining a unity government. If they reach an agreement, Bennett would become prime minister until 2023, at which point Lapid, a centrist former television host, would take over.

But the deal was not yet done by Monday night.

Three parties, including Bennett's, had not formally signed an agreement. Among other last-minute disputes, two parties were wrangling over who would run the agriculture ministry, while a third was still pushing for a place on a pivotal committee that decides judicial appointments, according to a person involved in the negotiations.

And a small Arab Islamist party, Raam, had still yet to declare whether it would support the new coalition — either informally by voting for it during the confirmation vote in parliament, or by formally joining the government itself — and in the process become the first party run by Palestinian citizens of Israel to back a right-leaning Israeli government.

And Netanyahu's party, Likud, was still piling pressure onto wavering right-wing opposition lawmakers, calling on them to abandon the anti-Netanyahu bloc and likely force the country to yet another election that might end more favorably for Netanyahu.

An official of New Hope, a small right-wing party that had yet to formally join the coalition bloc, said that its six lawmakers had received a constant barrage of phone calls and messages throughout Monday from Likud members, who were pushing them to abandon negotiations.

Pro-Netanyahu protesters gathered outside the homes of Bennett and his ally Ayelet Shaked, urging them to reverse course. Both were assigned security details by the police amid concerns they might become the target of political violence. And on the airwaves, Likud lawmakers heightened their criticisms of Bennett and Shaked in a last-gasp effort to jolt them away from Lapid.

Miri Regev, a Likud minister, told a broadcaster Monday night: "I still hope we will manage to form a right-wing government and that Bennett, who is the Madoff of Israeli politics, who deceived and lied to his voters, his clients, will come to his senses and come back home."

The protracted nature of the negotiations is partly rooted in the nature of the Israeli electoral system, which allocates parliamentary seats according to each party's share of the vote, making it easier for smaller parties to enter parliament, and harder for larger parties to form majority governments.

But it is also down to the divisiveness of Netanyahu himself.

His decision to remain in office while standing trial for corruption split his supporters. In turn, that division

exacerbated the political stalemate that has seen Israel crash through four inconclusive general elections in two years. Neither Netanyahu's bloc nor his opponents had enough votes to win office outright, allowing Netanyahu to stay in office, mostly as caretaker prime minister, but not completely in power.

Three of the parties likely to form part of the new coalition are led by former allies of Netanyahu, including Bennett.

"It's almost like a Greek tragedy," said Azaria, the

centrist former lawmaker. "There's the king, and he loses the faith of everyone that was loyal. He backstabs them, they backstab him."

Because of the protracted nature of the coalition negotiations, and the ideological differences between its constituent parties, the coalition is not expected to pursue contentious issues such as a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, or judicial reform. Instead it will likely focus on more straight-ahead policies.

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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Andy Yee was a giant in business

ON THURSDAY, WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS lost a giant in the business community as restaurateur and businessman Andrew Yee died at the age of 59.

In the last decade or so our region has seen businesses come and go, and it is expected to see changes in the landscape from time to time. Some businesses have staying power, though, and become part of the culture and fabric of our communities.

Businesses within the restaurant industry have a more intimate role to play than others as they often become our second homes - places where we have family gatherings. Places where we celebrate graduations, weddings, birthdays and anniversaries. As consumers, restaurants are the places where we like to be recognized and appreciated. We interact with staff and ownership of a restaurant like they are our close friends. These are the places where we find comfort and warmth away from our homes.

Andy Yee was part of that warmth.

In a statement on his passing, the Yee family said: "Anyone who knew Andy, knew that his laugh was contagious, his personality bigger than life, and he was always bursting with pride for his family and friends."

The Yee family operated the Hu Ke Lau restaurant in Chicopee for decades. That's where Andy grew up and watched his parents, Jung Tai "Johnny" and Linda Yee take a simple restaurant concept and turn it into a regional institution. When the 53-year-old business closed in 2018, Andy Yee was general manager.

Yee was instrumental in saving downtown Springfield's iconic Student Prince Café and the Fort Dining room when the Scherff family decided to close after 79 years. Yee also played a pivotal role in reviving the White Hut restaurant in West Springfield after third-generation owner Edward J. Barkett decided to close.

Yee's Bean Restaurant Group includes some of our favorite restaurants in the region, such as Johnny's Tavern in Amherst, Johnny's Bar and Grill in South Hadley, Iya Sushi and Noodle kitchen, the Boathouse in South Hadley and the Wursthaus in Northampton. It was not uncommon to see Yee at these places working the bar and speaking and laughing with customers.

Andy Yee will be missed by family and friends who knew him best, but he will also be missed by people he made feel welcome in his restaurants by providing a smile, sincere engagement and genuine warmth.

EDITORIAL

Refund police may become rallying cry

WHO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE IMAGINED that indiscriminately slashing police department budgets in cities across the land would lead in short order to significant increases in violent crime?

Anyone who was thinking clearly, or who took more than a half-second to consider the matter, that's who.

Unfortunately, there were plenty who obviously weren't thinking very clearly as they pushed their agenda to "defund the police."

Now, though, reality has lots of folks beginning to sing from a different hymnal, with the rates of murders specifically, and of violent crime more generally, having risen in major cities quickly and dramatically to levels not seen in decades.

In the aftermath of the senselessly brutal murder of George Floyd, an unarmed Black man who was killed beneath the knee of a white police officer in Minneapolis a year ago, there were protests in cities and towns across the nation. And with them came what for so many was a newfound recognition of how some in law enforcement appeared to have two sets of rules: one for white folks, another for people of color. This realization was only for the good. But it needed to be seen for what it was, not as an indictment of all police everywhere all the time.

Are there bad cops? Of course. No question about it. But that should in no way taint all in law enforcement. At least not logically. Unfortunately, the defund-the-police set wasn't long on logical thinking.

What was needed was a way to deal with the bad apples, removing them from their positions, and improving training for the current members of law enforcement. Doing this, of course, takes some effort. And time and money. Slashing budgets makes this even more difficult, if not impossible.

If making cities more dangerous was the goal, the defund movement was a great success. Otherwise, Democrats should can it.

We need better policing, better policies, increased efforts at treating all people, no matter the color of their skin, first and foremost as humans. But we need policing. No one can rationally suggest otherwise.

If you look out the window and see someone moving menacingly toward your neighbor's home, brandishing a gun as he goes, you'd reasonably hope that when you dialed 911 that someone would answer that call.

Refund the police.

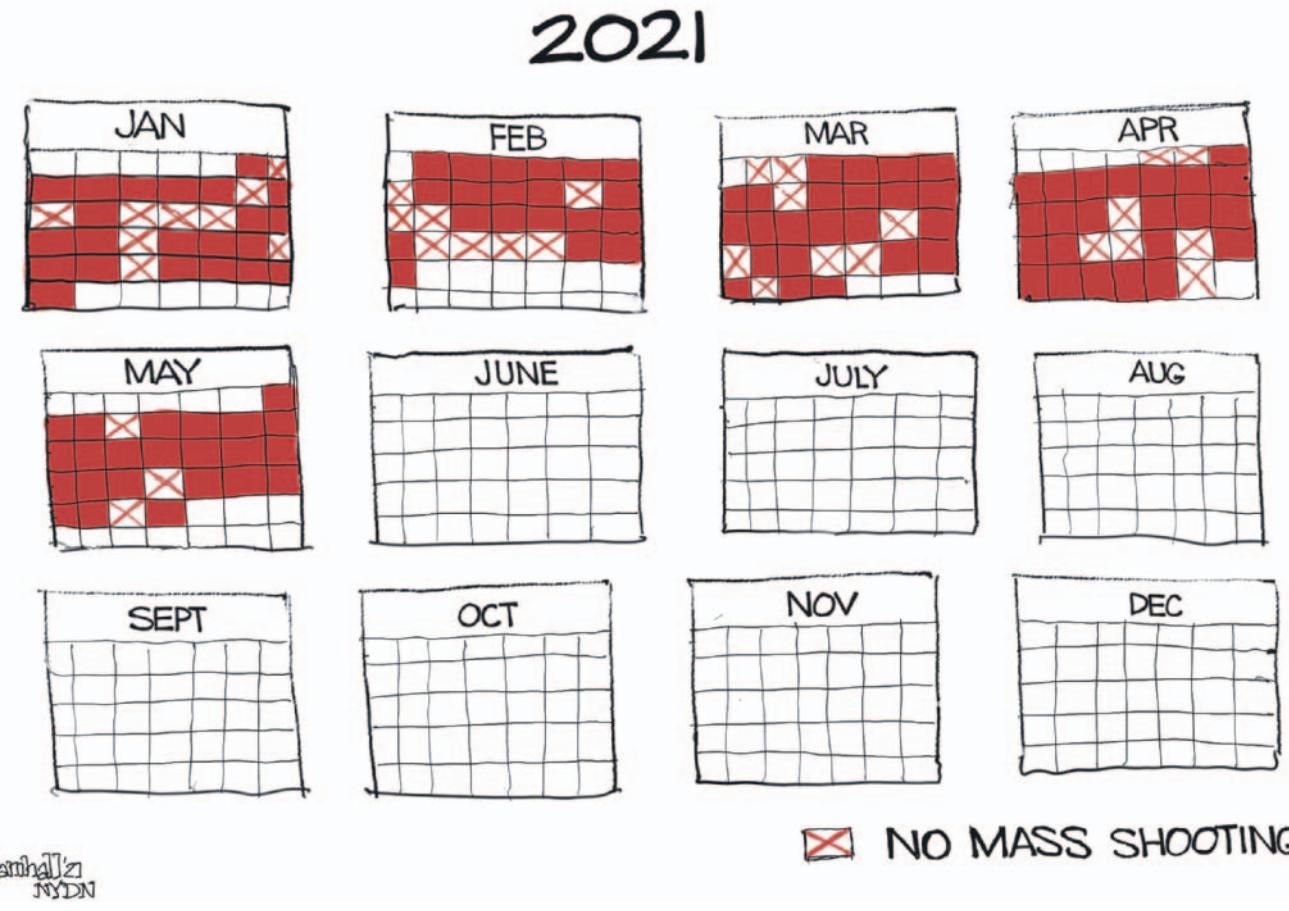
The Republican.

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GAIL COLLINS | NEW YORK TIMES

Feel free to fantasize about Trump behind bars

SO MANY INVESTIGATIONS, people.

"This is a continuation of the greatest Witch Hunt in American history," Donald Trump said, complaining about the multiple probes into his business practices.

That was in an online statement practically no one seems to have read. Truly, of all the former president's problems, his greatest woe has to be that Twitter ban. As The Washington Post cruelly reported, the new website he's put up as a replacement has "attracted fewer estimated visitors than the pet-adoption service Petfinder and the recipe site Delish."

Well, yeah. Take your pick: a new puppy, a new pasta recipe or a new post-presidential whine.

But Trump is certainly getting a lot of attention on the non-fan front. Here in New York he just lost an 18-month battle to keep the Manhattan district attorney from peeping at his financial records. As we all know, Trump is an absolute shrinking violet when it comes to his tax returns, and he made two trips to the Supreme Court trying to keep them out of the hands of anybody with the power of subpoena.

In Georgia, prosecutors are investigating Trump's post-election call to Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger. You'll remember the one in which he asked Raffensperger to "find" him some more votes. It does seem possible the Donald is going to spend the rest of his life struggling to stay out of jail, doesn't it?

Darn.

The Manhattan DA, Cyrus Vance Jr., has reportedly convened a grand jury that'll be looking into Trumpian ... issues. The whole probe could take six months and readers, I want you to send out a couple of good thoughts every now and then to those grand jury members. How many times have you rejoiced that

you don't have to think about Donald Trump every single day anymore? How would you feel about half a year of constant contemplation?

Vance is now working with the state attorney general, Letitia James, who has been investigating - among multitudinous other things - a \$25 million tax deduction Trump took for a failed housing development project in California.

If Trump has any genuine business acumen, it's been his ability to simultaneously present himself as a real estate genius for the purpose of bank loans while also claiming massive business losses when he's dealing with the Internal Revenue Service.

But be fair: You could certainly make a lot of good arguments for Trump's being a loser. If any of his business has survived, it's at least in part because you the taxpayer were helping to bail him out by paying Trump properties for rooms the Secret Service rented while guarding the Trumps.

And remember the \$600,000 you the taxpayer spent in 2019 to shuttle Mike Pence between meetings in Dublin and his accommodations at the Trump hotel 180 miles away? By the way, whatever happened to Mike? Well, he seems to have moved back to Indiana to prepare to run for president in 2024. Dwell on that for a minute.

Anyway, when it comes to making money off the government, the Trumpian beat goes on. Recently we learned that the minute he left the White House and moved to Mar-a-Lago, he began charging the Secret Service about \$400 a night for a room at his resort.

It's possible that the only part of the real estate business Trump is actually any good at is finding ways to bill the taxpayer for this kind of stuff. But once the poor grand jury finishes its labors

we may know a whole lot more. Some of his minions are apparently jabbering to investigators like cicadas.

Here in New York, besides all the investigations, the city has been trying to can the Trump company that runs its public golf course in the Bronx. The family - led by son Eric - is demanding \$30 million in return.

New Yorkers, would you rather:

a) Cough up some money to make Trumps go away.

b) Find a mayoral candidate who will countersue for \$30 million worth of public irritation.

c) Turn the golf course into a pest control center named the Donald Trump Animal Shelter for Mistreated Rodents.

Experts say this fight could go on for years. Meanwhile, north of the city, concerned citizens have been trying to erase Trump's name from a state park, located on land he donated after the collapse of his original plan to build a golf course. The Trump Organization says it may go to court if there's a change. Lots of ways of getting around this, but I do like the one proposed to PolitiFact by a legal expert, who mentioned the possibility of a sign saying, "Unnamed State Park, next right."

It'll be a long while before we find out how these investigations turn out. But it's already crystal clear that if you took a sweeping view of Trump's empire, the two perpetually recurring motifs would be "golf" and "failed development."

This gives me the opportunity to note that during one of those early real estate disasters, I wrote a column referring to him as "an extremely well-dressed pile of debt, wearing an unusual haircut." That was in 1992, and next year I want you to remind me to celebrate my 30th anniversary of making fun of Donald Trump.

ERIK WEMPLE | THE WASHINGTON POST

Jake Tapper backs criticism of colleague Chris Cuomo

CNN ANCHOR JAKE TAPPER agrees with the criticism that his colleague, prime-time anchor Chris Cuomo, screwed up. Boy, does he agree. "I cannot imagine a world in which anybody in journalism thinks that that was appropriate," Tapper said on Kara Swisher's New York Times podcast. "And he said, Chris, in his apology that he delivered on air, said that he put us in a bad spot. And I would also agree with that."

Recent revelations about Cuomo have extended a long-running media story. When his brother, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, found himself embroiled in sexual-harassment and COVID-related scandals starting in late January, Chris Cuomo's show was silent - even though he'd interviewed his brother in a series of backslapping interviews early last year, when all was good with the governor. CNN was forced to concede that it had suspended its conflict-of-interest prohibition on Cuomo-on-Cuomo journalism in those early pandemic months.

Then The Washington Post reported that Chris Cuomo had participated in strategy sessions with Andrew Cuomo and his advisers. The younger Cuomo counseled the governor to plow through the sexual-harassment allegations and used the term "cancel culture" to describe the bind in which the older Cuomo found himself.

Last Thursday night, Chris Cuomo issued the on-air apology referenced by Tapper. "It was a mistake because I put my colleagues here, who I believe are the best in the business, in a bad spot. I never intended for that, I would never intend for that, and I am sorry for that," Cuomo said.

The fundamentals of the whole mess are damning for Cuomo and his bosses: First the double standard on covering the governor, then the breathtaking violation of journalism ethics. If there's any upside to the scandal, however, it's the network's handling of it: An official statement fully acknowledged that Chris Cuomo's conduct was inappropriate; Cuomo's apology was extensive and genuine; CNN Worldwide President Jeff Zucker took a question about the matter at a town hall meeting on Tuesday, an important element of accountability; and Tapper, one of the network's marquee personalities, has lent his voice to the criticism. Perhaps others in the company will now feel emboldened to voice their own takes - and even demand an explanation for why Chris Cuomo's advice to his brother appeared disrespectful to the women who'd come forward.

On another item of significant ethical dispute in TV journalism, Tapper talked about all those lying Republicans. His shows have abjured discussing contemporary issues with GOP politicians who

promoted the "big lie" that the presidential election was stolen from former president Donald Trump. Tapper:

"I have not booked, since the election, anyone who's engaged in these lies. I just, I haven't. It's not a policy but it's a philosophy where I just don't want to deal with it. I don't want to deal and it really saddens me because there are Republican members of Congress with whom I respect, or formerly did. And there's too many important things to deal with right now in terms of what's going on in the Middle East or in Africa or in Myanmar or China or Russia. And, also, if you're willing to lie about that, what else are you willing to lie about? And why should my viewers listen to you?"

That's a principled position, though it runs the risk of letting the bad-faith set off the hook. I favor inviting these folks for interviews and frontloading the election-lie questions. If that approach doesn't fetch a retraction from the interviewee, simply refuse to move on to other topics.

The rest of Swisher's interview with Tapper is worth checking out as well, including the lightly covered matter of whether on-air facial expressions betray a cable-news host's innermost feelings. The discussion comes as part of the rollout for Tapper's latest novel, "The Devil May Dance" - just another example of how book tours have become a critical element of big-media transparency.

MOSCOW

Russia to form 20 new military units

BY VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

Russia's military will form 20 new units in the country's west this year to counter what it claims is a growing threat from NATO, the defense minister said yesterday.

Sergei Shoigu made the announcement at a meeting with top military officials. He pointed to a growing number of flights by U.S. strategic bombers near Russia's borders, deployments of NATO warships and increasingly frequent and major drills by alliance forces.

He charged that such actions "destroy the international security system and force us to take the relevant countermeasures."

"We will form another 20 units and formations in the Western Military District until the year's end," Shoigu said.

He added the military units in Western Russia have commissioned about 2,000 new pieces of weaponry this year.

Asked Monday about Russia's plans, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg noted that "Russia over the last years has invested heavily in new, modern military capabilities, from conventional to nuclear weapon systems" and "has been willing to use military force against neighbors, in Georgia, in Ukraine."

"This is one of the main reasons why NATO over the last years has increased the readiness of (its) armed forces," he told reporters before Tuesday's meeting of the alliance's foreign and defense ministers.

Currently, thousands of NATO troops, several warships and dozens of aircraft are taking part in military exercises stretching across the Atlantic, through Europe and into the Black Sea region.

NATO says the war games aren't aimed at Russia, but the Steadfast Defender 21 exercises are simulating the 30-nation military organization's response to an attack on any one of its members. It will test NATO's ability to deploy troops from the U.S. and keep supply lines open.

Last month, a troop buildup in Russia's south and southwest near the Ukrainian border raised concerns in Ukraine and the West, which urged Moscow to withdraw its forces.

Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014 following the ouster of the country's Moscow-friendly president and then threw its weight behind separatist rebels in eastern Ukraine. More than 14,000 people have been killed in seven years of fighting in eastern Ukraine.

Russia has recalled some troops from its western part after sweeping maneuvers in April, but Shoigu ordered them to leave their weapons behind for Russia's Zapad (West) 2021 military exercises in September.

He noted Monday that preparations for the exercises, which will be conducted jointly with Belarus, are now in their final stage and emphasized that the maneuvers have an "exclusively defensive character."

Last week, Russia offered political support to its ally Belarus, which diverted a Ryanair plane flying from Greece to Lithuania as part of a ruse to arrest a dissident journalist. The European Union denounced the flight's diversion as piracy and responded by barring the Belarusian flag carrier from its airspace and advising European airlines to skirt Belarus' airspace.

Lorne Cook in Brussels contributed to this report.

NORTHAMPTON

Budget seeks \$150K for mental health response

Senator details Western Mass. earmarks

BY BENJAMIN KAIL
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Northampton's push to create a department of unarmed emergency responders could receive a \$150,000 boost if an approved amendment from state Sen. Jo Comerford makes the cut in the 2022 budget that eventually lands on Gov. Charlie Baker's desk.

The proposed \$150,000 investment — part of the state Senate's \$47.7 billion fiscal 2022 budget — would complement the \$424,000 Mayor David Narkewicz recently proposed to establish the Department of Community Care, which would be among the first of its kind. If created as recommended by the Northampton Policing Review Commission, the City



"This year's budget shows how far our commonwealth has come in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic."

Sen. Jo Comerford

Council-backed plan would see the department's members absorb many responsibilities traditionally carried out by police, including responding to mental health crises.

The amendment is one of a dozen led by Comerford, D-Northampton, that would invest more than \$4.2 million across nonprofits, municipalities and programs statewide, including more than \$1.2 million targeted for the Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester district. The funding proposals for local institutions come as an overwhelming majority of Massachusetts nonprofit leaders say they've been

severely impacted by lockdowns and social distancing since the COVID-19 pandemic hit the U.S. last year.

Comerford also helped advance \$100,000 proposed for the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to provide grants across Franklin County to boost municipalities' crisis response programs and police reform efforts, and \$90,000 for Amherst's crisis response work.

"Last year at this time our commonwealth's economy was cratering and our annual budget was delayed by many months," Comerford said in a statement.

"This year's budget shows how far our commonwealth has come in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic."

of Whately's funding; and \$25,000 each for reconstruction and building costs at the Wendell Meetinghouse, Shea Theater Arts Center in Montague and David Ruggles Center for History and Education in Northampton.

Comerford's office noted in a recent news release that the state Senate budget also includes \$110,000 to help fund the operation of children's advocacy centers in Hampshire County, Franklin County and the North Quabbin.

The budget would use \$422,000 to establish a Safe Havens program in Hampshire and Franklin counties, providing shelter to those grappling with homelessness and mental health issues.

Starting next week, a joint conference committee will reconcile the Senate budget with the approved House spending plan before the final budget heads to Baker's office for signature.

SPRINGFIELD

75 apply for city clerk position

BY PETER GOONAN

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The City Council received more than 75 applications for the open city clerk job by the May 28 deadline, and has meetings scheduled this week to narrow the field.

Councilor Michael Fenton, chairman of the City Clerk Search Committee, said yesterday he has scheduled committee meetings beginning today at 4 p.m., and continuing daily through Friday at that same time, if needed, to consider all candidates and decide on the screening process.

"I am thrilled with the large and impressive applicant pool, but I am not surprised because it is a very desirable job," Fenton said. "We will start the work of filling this position right away."

Fenton said he looks forward "to having a thoughtful deliberation so we can allow the council to make an informed and solid choice for the future of the city clerk's office."

The council is continuing to conduct its meetings by remote due to the coronavirus pandemic.

City clerk Tasheena Davis recently resigned after 22 months on the job, working her last day May 28. She is returning to the city's Law Department to work as first associate solicitor, and is also set to return as the council's lawyer. Davis said she chose to resign to resume her "passion" for practicing law.

Fenton said there could be executive sessions, closed to the public, to review the

many resumes. An undetermined number of finalists will be interviewed by the full council in public session. The applications are not being publicly released, as applicants have the right to confidentiality in the early stage, Fenton said.

"The intent is that by the end of the week we will have reviewed the resumes, and hopefully conducted the appropriate interviews so that we can make a list of finalists for the full council to interview very quickly," Fenton said.

The city clerk is responsible for the recording of vital statistics, legal records and official City Council records, as well as the issuance of various licenses and official documents, according to the job description. The annual salary was posted at \$92,270.36, but can be adjusted according to experience.

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno has nominated election commissioner and deputy city clerk Gladys Oyola-Lopez for the position.

Fenton said the city clerk position was advertised for two weeks. The advertisement included the same responsibilities and qualifications as were posted when Davis was selected as clerk in 2019, and for the prior clerk, Anthony Wilson, Fenton said.

The City Clerk Search Committee also consists of Councilors Victor Davila and Melvin Edwards. They and Fenton were appointed by Council President Marcus Williams.

ST. EUSTATIUS

18th century graveyard found at former plantation

Associated Press

An 18th century burial ground has been discovered at a former sugar plantation on the Dutch Caribbean island of St. Eustatius, officials said yesterday, and archaeologists said it likely contains the remains of slaves and could provide a trove of information on the lives as enslaved people.

Government officials said 48 skeletons had been found at the site so far, most of them males, but also some females and infants.

Alexandre Hinton, the director of the St. Eustatius Center for Archaeological Research, said many more remains were expected to lie in the graves at the former Golden Rock Plantation.

"We are predicting that the number of individuals buried

here will surpass the burial site discovered at Newton Plantation on Barbados, where 104 enslaved Africans were excavated. This is one of the largest sites of its kind ever discovered in the Caribbean," she said.

Authorities said the site was found while archaeologists checked an area needed for expansion of an airport.

"We knew the potential for archaeological discoveries in this area was high, but this cemetery exceeds all expectations," Hinton said.

Given the location near the former plantation, Hinton said the graves most likely contain the remains of enslaved people.

"Initial analysis indicates that these are people of African descent," she said.



A worker inspects plants in the grow room at Mass Alternative Care at 1247 E. Main St. in Chicopee. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)

CHICOPEE

Council weighs \$15 million pot cultivation proposal

BY JEANETTE DEFORGE

jdeforge@repub.com

The City Council tonight will consider a proposal to allow a \$15 million marijuana cultivation facility to be located in a former industrial building.

The council's zoning committee voted 4-0 on May 27 to recommend Mass Alternative Care Inc. be granted a special permit for a 56,000-square-foot cannabis cultivation facility in part of the 154,000 square-foot industrial building at 77 Champion Drive.

It also approved five waivers to regulations, including two reducing the required 100-foot planted buffer between any cannabis operation and a residential area, and at least one which was considered a technicality due to an outdated rule in the city's zoning code.

Mass Alternative Care Inc. opened the first cannabis business in Hampden County in 2018 with a medical marijuana retail facility at 1247 E. Main St., and then expanded to add recreational sales in July 2019. The East Main Street location also includes a cultivation and production operation.

"It is only a manufacturing facility," said A.J. Crane, owner of A. Crane Construction, which is renovating the building. "There is no public access at all."

He called it an "ideal location" for the business. The building is in an industrial zone, which allows for cannabis cultivation. There is no problem with water or electrical access and there is a gated fence surrounding the entire property. It is also far from churches, schools and other protected uses.

The project is nearly



Mass Alternative Care workers attend to their duties at its facility at 1247 E. Main St. in Chicopee. It originally opened for medical patients in 2018. This is the trimming operation. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)

identical to one Apical Inc., of Easthampton, proposed in March 2019. The zoning committee voted to recommend the plan then, but that company never went through with the development, city planner Lee Pouliot said.

"They had a good idea. We decided to do the same thing," Crane said. "Same building. Same presentation. Same use."

The company currently has six cultivation rooms. The new location, if approved, would have a dozen and would allow the owners to increase operations by 300%, said Kevin Collins, manager of Mass Alternative Care.

If approved the company would hire about 100 full- and part-time employees who would earn salaries ranging from \$30,000 a year for those with little experience up to about \$45,000 for more experienced growers, Collins said.

Along with the \$15 million investment, the company

will pay up to 20% taxes, which includes a 6.25% sales tax, a 10.75% excise tax, and local option tax for cities and towns up to 3%.

It has also paid the city more than \$2 million in use fees for water, sewer and electricity since it opened the first location.

One neighbor signed onto last week's virtual meeting. While she had no complaints about the proposal, she did ask questions about any smell coming from the building, which Collins explained was handled with a high-tech ventilation system that includes odor-control scrubbers.

City Councilor George Balakier asked about the other company in the 77 Champion Drive building, Holden Humphry, which distributes building materials.

Barbara Green, who represents the building owners, said they have talked to the owners and they have no complaints about the new proposal.

The state-of-the-art, \$27.5M Brookings School opened in 2015 at 433 Walnut St., funded 100% by the state School Building Authority due to the disaster.



On July 15, 2011, crews start to install new portable classrooms behind the Elias Brookings School on Hancock Street in Springfield. Thirty structures were installed for use by students in the wake of the June 1, 2011, tornado. At right, on Aug. 31, 2011, students from the school file into their new temporary school. It was the first day since the June 1 tornado that they were able to go back to their own school. The original building is in the background. A brand-new school was built and opened in 2015. (THE REPUBLICAN FILE PHOTOS)



Tornado

CONTINUES FROM PAGE A1

million, primarily involving city, state and federal disaster funds, as well as school construction grants from the state. Millions more came from insurance coverage and private investments.

"It looked like a war zone," recalls Leo Florian, president of the South End Citizens Council. "The destruction was unbelievable."

Florian acknowledges he and others initially didn't know if many residents and businesses would just "pack it in and leave."

"But it was just the opposite," he adds. "Milano's, La Fiorentina, they all turned around, and they said, 'No, we're not going anywhere. We're staying.'"

The Rebuild Springfield nonprofit hosted numerous community meetings, with more than 3,000 participants from the community discussing their ideas and strategies for revitalization, both within the tornado zone and city-wide. The process resulted in a 150-page report issued in 2012 that can still be found on the city website.

City officials and residents describe countless projects that sprang up from the tornado, from the banks of the Connecticut River to the tight enclaves of the Maple High-Six Corners neighborhood, and to the far reaches of East Forest Park.

One example of revitalization is the ongoing transformation of the Central Street



On March 20, 2015, Jaira Martinez, right a fourth-grader at the Elias Brookings School, is the tour guide for U.S. Rep. Richard E. Neal, center, as the congressman took a tour of the new school. The original school building was damaged in the June 1, 2011, tornado. (THE REPUBLICAN FILE PHOTO)

corridor from devastated homes, downed trees and damaged streets and sidewalks to a modern, clean throughway in the heart of Ward 3. Road reconstruction is occurring now thanks to federal disaster funds.

"Beautiful new homes, all the good families, very diverse," Sarno says. "We helped them rebuild their homes. All the roadway improvements are being done."

Nicholas Fyntrilakis, who was co-chairman of Rebuild Springfield, said many projects mirrored the suggestions of residents and other stakeholders, such as the new Elias Brookings School and a drug store on Main Street in the South End, both replacing buildings that were heavily damaged by the tornado.

The state-of-the-art, \$27.5

million Brookings School opened in 2015 at 433 Walnut St., funded 100% by the state School Building Authority due to the disaster. The state also fully funded a \$15.1 million renovation of the Mary Dryden School in East Forest Park after heavy damage from the tornado.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield used insurance and federal disaster aid to rebuild Cathedral High School as Pope Francis Preparatory School. The new building opened in 2018.

In 2019, a CVS store opened in the South End on Main Street, a \$2 million private investment. Residents and other stakeholders in the Rebuild Springfield process had suggested a grocery store or drug store there, Fyntrilakis recalls.

"It's kind of nice to retroactively look back and say there was a lot of dialogue and thoughts and ideas that went into the plan, and at the end of the day, 10 years later, many of them have come to fruition," Fyntrilakis says.

Not on the plan, but arising from the tornado, MGM Springfield built a \$960 million resort casino that included a stretch of torna-

do-damaged buildings and other properties. The project included the 2016 demolition of the former Alfred G. Zanetti School on Howard Street, purchased from the city.

Patrick J. Sullivan, the city's director of parks, buildings and recreation management, says there were renovations of nine parks damaged by the tornado at a cost of more than \$1 million, with the city now finishing the last one, Ruth Elizabeth Park. The city also removed and replaced thousands of trees torn apart by the twister.

"It's amazing what's happened in 10 years," says Timothy Sheehan, the city's chief development officer. "While most of the investment was focused in the area of the disaster, it's been impactful to the entire city."

Some projects continue today.

In 2016, the city obtained a \$17 million federal "resiliency" grant to help make the city safer from future disasters.

That included funds for Watersheds Pond improvements and creation of the Springfield Innovation Center to aid with job training and business reinvestment.

The tornado blew tons of trees and debris into Watersheds Pond, leading to an ongoing dam repair and improvement project. Both that dam and the earthen dam at Lower Van Horn Park were targeted for improvements to protect those areas from potential flood disasters.

The old Brookings School, vacant since the tornado, is now being converted to a 42-unit, \$19 million housing project, aided by millions of dollars in public funding, tax credits and loans separate from tornado relief funds. Home City Development Inc. is the developer. Adjacent to the new Brookings school is the \$14.4 million Educare Springfield early childhood education center that opened in early 2020, further enriching the once devastated

neighborhood.

Another major project that was completed last year, again tied to the Rebuild Springfield effort, was the construction of a roundabout at Six Corners, which had been one of the worst intersections in the city. Solving the Six Corners intersection was a proposal that came out of the public discussions about the post-tornado recovery, officials said.

Melvin Edwards, president of the Maple High-Six Corners Neighborhood Council, says there has been a strong public-private investment in the area.

"It's been very transformative, the impact of the resources that were invested in our neighborhood," says Edwards, who is also the Ward 3 city councilor. "The quality of the housing stock that has been replaced, replenished since then, the investment by the city using federal and state resources. It has been really beneficial even born out of tragedy."

Tina Quagliato, the city's director of disaster recovery, explains the tornado damaged 475 owner-occupied homes in Springfield and 430 rental units, according to assessments by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Coupled with private insurance and grants, there was widespread housing rehabilitation in the tornado area, which continues, she said.

Twenty-one properties were demolished immediately after the tornado, deemed beyond repair, and the city completed another 44 "demolition and/or make-safe projects" thereafter, with FEMA funding, Quagliato said.

The Rebuild Springfield effort called for improvements to target "domains" - physical, cultural, social, economic, organizational and overall. One example of an organizational change was strengthening Develop Springfield to tackle some of the most challenging economic development projects in cooperation with the city, officials said.

Beth Hogan, president of the East Forest Park Civic Association, praises residents for their personal investments. The neighborhood has seen "so many upgrades with homes with new windows, roofs, siding" and other property improvements, according to Hogan. Everyone came together, with neighbors helping neighbors, she says.

"I would like to see that again and hope that we continue to think like that again,"

ABOUT THE SERIES

After the Storm is a 10-year retrospective of the communities ravaged by the June 1, 2011 tornado, the lives impacted and how Western Massachusetts rebuilt. Here's a look at some of the key stories, which will appear in The Republican and on MassLive:

Sunday: During a violent 70 minutes, lives and the very look of western and central Massachusetts were forever changed.

Monday: The tornado transformed Springfield's South End, literally clearing the way for MGM Springfield.

TODAY: Rebuild Springfield is credited with new and renovated housing, restored parks and roadways.

Wednesday: It took six years after the tornado, but the South End Community Center found itself a new home.

Thursday: With the help of federal funds, Pope Francis Preparatory School was built from the rubble of Cathedral High School.

Friday: Friendships formed in adversity remain a decade after the tornado ravaged Brimfield and surrounding towns.

Saturday: A West Springfield business owner still gets nervous when the wind and rain pick up in the Merrick neighborhood hit hard by the tornado.

and remember that we're all just one people that can work for the common good, despite our differences," she adds.

The new East Forest Park Library, which opened in 2019 on Surrey Road next to the Dryden School, was aided by tornado relief funding.

The South End Community Center, heavily damaged in the tornado, relocated from Howard Street to Marble Street, and various businesses have been renovated or replaced, according to Florian.

Another example of South End improvements was a private investment by Balise Auto, purchasing various vacant and damaged sites for an ongoing, multimillion-dollar expansion, he says.

A related project outside the tornado path was the \$4 million renovation-expansion of the Clifford Phaneuf Environmental Center at Forest Park that houses the Environmental Center of our Schools (ECOS) program for local students.

The new Raymond Jordan Senior Center at Blunt Park on Roosevelt Avenue, completed in 2018, was aided by the disaster funds as a federally approved community project, city officials said.

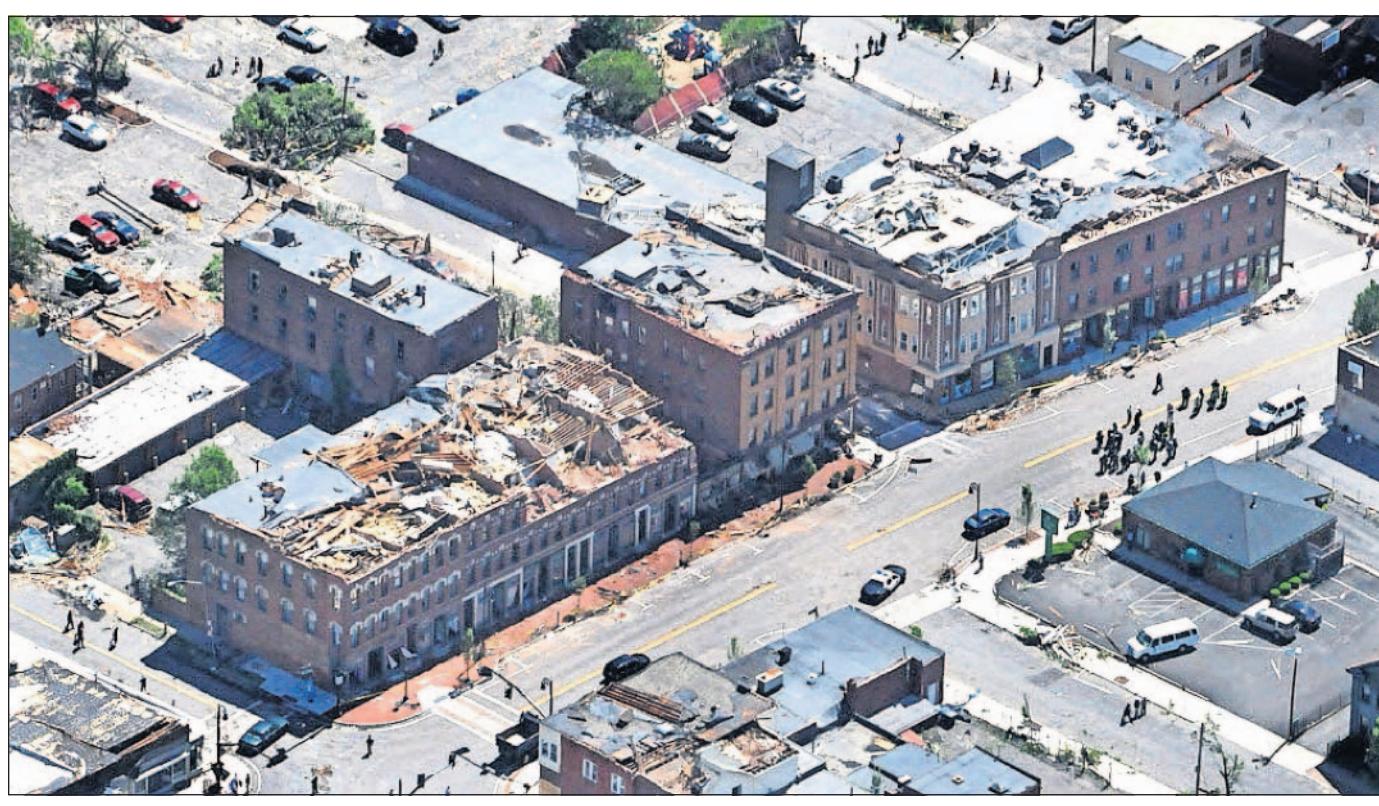
Chief administrative and financial officer Timothy J. Plante says the city filed "appeal after appeal" for greater federal disaster aid and reimbursements. FEMA, while a giant bureaucratic agency, came through for the city, he adds.

"We went from \$4.5 million from FEMA for the old Zanetti School and the South End Community Center to \$25 million that could be used for ECOS Center at Forest Park, a new School Department Parent Information Center, and the Ray Jordan Senior Center," he explains.

Of the total estimated recovery cost of \$138 million, the city was responsible for about \$13.5 million, Plante said.



Leo Florian, president of the South End Community Council, stands on Main Street near Union Street, an intersection severely damaged in the June 1, 2011 tornado. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)



Springfield's Main Street businesses were damaged by the June 1, 2011, tornado. (THE REPUBLICAN FILE PHOTO)



Springfield mayor Domenic J. Sarno and city officials on May 12 talk about the 10-year anniversary of the tornado that swept through Western Massachusetts in 2011. Behind Sarno are Daniel J. Warwick, school superintendent; Timothy J. Plante, chief administrative and financial officer; Patrick J. Sullivan, parks and buildings director; and Timothy T. Sheehan, chief development officer. (HOANG 'LEON' NGUYEN / THE REPUBLICAN)



Members of American Legion Post 185 in Agawam participate yesterday in the Memorial Day parade and observance in Agawam. (JIM KINNEY / THE REPUBLICAN)

Memorial

CONTINUES FROM PAGE A1

Memorial Day is not supposed to be a festive kickoff to summer, he said.

"This is a solemn day for us," he said.

A little while before the parade, Bob Griffin of Agawam walked his granddaughter, Lily, down a row of bronze tablets. He traced his fingers over the names of those from Agawam who'd served in the nation's wars as far back as the Revolution.

He said the day was about honoring the nation's war dead. But he said it was also satisfying to see such a big crowd at a community event.

"It's good to be coming back to normal a little bit," Griffin said.

Agawam Mayor William P. Sapelli made the same observation, saying Monday's parade — held in the morning dews and damps — had the biggest crowd he can remember.

Cimma said this is the first time Agawam has had its parade since 2018. The 2019 parade was rained out.

The parade featured the high school's marching band and the Melha Highlanders bagpipe band, along with police and firefighters, Scouts and youth sports teams, as well as antique cars.

Some observances remained online because of continuing COVID-19 concerns. United Veterans of Holyoke and the city's Department of Veterans' Services presented a virtual ceremony for the second year in a row.

Retired Army Lt. Col. Margaret Bowe, a Holyoke native and pioneer in the military, was the keynote speaker. She said she educates people not to use the line "Happy Memorial Day" and not relegate the day to car and appliance sales.

"While I'm all for boosting the economy, let's not try to forget the real reason for this day," she said. "I want to acknowledge all those who gave their lives in service to this wonderful country. But most especially to my contemporaries who served and died in Vietnam. Welcome home, my brothers."

State Rep. Patricia Duffy, D-Holyoke, remembered the 77 residents of the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke who succumbed to COVID-19 in 2020. The deaths prompted an investigation and filing of criminal charges against the home's former top administrators. Plans are in motion to build a new Soldiers' Home.

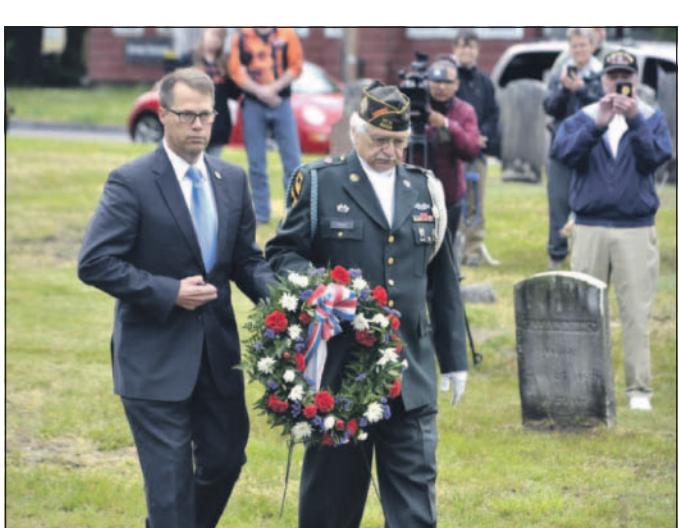
"It's true those heroes did



Vietnam War veteran Dick Bart attends a ceremony yesterday at Park Street Cemetery following the 153rd Veterans Council of Northampton Memorial Day Parade in Florence. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)



Above, Alan Guditis is dressed as a major in the 10th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment while attending a ceremony at Park Street Cemetery. At right, Greta Lapore, of the Florence Junior Girl Scouts, places a flag on the grave of a veteran at the cemetery. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)



Northampton Mayor David Narkewicz, left, and Thomas Pease from VFW Post 8006 place a wreath during a ceremony at Park Street Cemetery. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)

at the Veterans Memorial on East Street for a morning observance ceremony.

Westfield hosted an observance at Parker Memorial Park on West Silver Street, but not a parade.

In Northampton, the village of Florence host its 153rd Memorial Day Parade, an event thought to be one of the oldest in the country. Ludlow residents gathered

West Springfield also hosted an observance, this one on Town Common.

Dennis Hohenberger and Jim Russell contributed to this report.



United States President Joe Biden lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery yesterday in Arlington, Virginia. President Biden also delivered the remarks at the Memorial Day Address at the 153rd National Memorial Day Observance. (TASOS KATOPODIS/POOL/CNP/ZUMA PRESS/TNS)

NATION

A nation emerging from pandemic honors Memorial Day

BY JAMES ANDERSON

Associated Press

A nation slowly emerging from social distancing measures imposed by the coronavirus pandemic honored generations of U.S. veterans killed in the line of duty on a Memorial Day observed without the severe pandemic restrictions that affected the day of tribute just a year ago.

Memorial Day parades and events were held in localities large and small across the country Monday, many resuming after being canceled last year as the pandemic hit with full force.

At Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, President Joe Biden delivered a solemn speech honoring the 1 million Americans killed in service of the nation — and challenged that nation to carry on that fight by defending its democracy.

"This nation was built on an idea," Biden said. "We were built on an idea, the idea of liberty and opportunity for all. We've never fully realized that aspiration of our founders, but every generation has opened the door a little wider."

"The struggle for democracy is taking place around the world — democracy and autocracy. The struggle for decency, dignity, just simple decency," Biden declared.

This year's remembrances were as painful, if less restrictive, as those held on Memorial Day 2020, when Americans settled for small processions and online tributes instead of parades. The pandemic last year forced communities to honor the nation's military dead with modest, more subdued ceremonies that also remembered those lost to the coronavirus.

With restrictions lifting, Americans paid tribute in public gatherings this year — and like last year, they also remembered the thousands of veterans who died from COVID-19. Still, there were some vestiges: An early morning wreath laying ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona was shared virtually.

That wasn't the case at a long-delayed veterans and airmen's reunion in West Hills, California, a Los Angeles suburb where veterans gathered face to face for the first time Monday since their weekly reunions were shut down 14 months ago by the pandemic.

"This is a special group of veterans who are trying not to be homebound," Ed Reynolds, a Vietnam War and Air Force veteran, told KTLA-TV.

"It's good to see these faces again. It's sort of emotional," he said, visibly emotional himself.

Reynolds said some 12 members of the group had died over the past year.

For a select few, the Memorial Day weekend marked the final farewell, decades in the making, of the remains of fallen heroes from World War II. They included two Kentucky men — U.S. Navy Fireman 3rd Class Welborn L. Ashby, who was killed at 24, and U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Howard Scott Magers, killed at 18 — who perished in the Decem-

ber 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Some 2,403 Americans died in the attack.

Magers' remains arrived in Barren County on Saturday after they were identified by the federal Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. He was laid to rest with full military honors, the Daily News reported.

A Memorial Day service was being held for Ashby in Beaver Dam, followed by burial at Centertown Cemetery with full military honors, including a "Missing Man" flyover by vintage planes.

In Tennessee, the body of U.S. Marine Capt. Glenn Walker, one of more than 1,100 Marines killed in the 1943 Pacific Battle of Tarawa, is coming home, his family told The Tennessean this weekend. The family plans a reunion and burial in July.

"I get emotional when I think of the life he could have had," said Walker's nephew Lane Martin. "The good is that we've reached out to family all over the country and drawn us back together."

In Florida, former President Donald Trump joined in remembering the country's fallen heroes.

"The depth of their devotion, the steel of their resolve, and the purity of their patriotism has no equal in human history," Trump said in a statement posted on his website. About 20 miles north of Trump's Mar-a-Lago compound in Palm Beach, Florida, flags bearing Trump's name whipped in the breeze as dozens of boats held a Memorial Day parade along the waters of Jupiter.

In Denver, veterans and their families paid silent tribute among thousands of polished marble headstones, each meticulously adorned with an American flag, at Fort Logan National Cemetery — a scene marked at national cemeteries across the nation.

But in Southern California, authorities said a huge American flag and several smaller flags were stolen from Los Angeles National Cemetery over the weekend. The theft of the flag, which measures 25 feet by 200 feet (7.6 meters by 9.1 meters), "cannot detract in the slightest way from the honor and respect we pay on this Memorial Day to those service men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation," said Les' Melnyk, a spokesperson for the Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration.

Monday's commemorations were held as new data released by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest that new cases of COVID-19 are plunging and that more than 40% of the U.S. population has been fully vaccinated.

With the declines, most states have been reducing or dropping most social distancing restrictions.

As of Saturday, the rolling seven-day average of new cases in the U.S. had dropped to 18,913, according to the CDC — the first time that average had dipped below 20,000 a day since March 2020.

TULSA, OKLA.

Hundreds gather at historic church

By PETER SMITH
Associated Press

Hundreds gathered yesterday for an interfaith service dedicating a prayer wall outside historic Vernon African Methodist Episcopal Church in Tulsa's Greenwood neighborhood on the centennial of the first day of one of the deadliest racist massacres in the nation.

National civil rights leaders, including the Revs. Jesse Jackson and William Barber, joined multiple local faith leaders offering prayers and remarks outside the church that was under construction and largely destroyed when a white mob descended on the prosperous Black neighborhood in 1921, burning, killing, looting and leveling a 35-square-block area. Estimates of the death toll range from dozens to 300.

Barber, a civil and economic rights activist, said he was "humbled even to stand on this holy ground."

"You can kill the people but you cannot kill the voice of the blood."

Although the church was nearly destroyed in the massacre, parishioners continued to meet in the basement, and it was rebuilt several years later, becoming a symbol of the resilience of Tulsa's Black community. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2018.

As the ceremony came to an end, participants put their hands on the prayer wall along the side of the sanctuary while soloist Santita Jackson sang "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Traffic hummed on a nearby interstate that cuts through the Greenwood District, which was rebuilt after the massacre but slowly deteriorated 50 years later after homes were taken by eminent domain as part of urban renewal in the 1970s.

Among those who spoke at the outdoor ceremony were Democratic U.S. Reps. Barbara Lee of California, and Lisa Brunt Rochester and U.S. Sen. Chris Coons, both from Delaware.

BOSTON

Bill would honor ill veterans

Associated Press

Gov. Charlie Baker has again filed a bill intended to honor veterans lost to service-related illnesses, including PTSD.

The bill would establish the Massachusetts Medal of Fidelity, which would be presented by the Massachusetts National Guard to the families of veterans who lost their lives to service-related illnesses and injuries.

The legislation would authorize the state to honor service members who "died as the result of service-connected diseases, conditions or injuries that are related to either exposure to harmful toxins, herbicides, agents, and materials or service-related post-traumatic stress disorder."

"The Medal of Fidelity is an important opportunity to honor the brave men and women and their families who have served not just the Commonwealth, but the nation," Baker said in a press release.

"Service-related injuries and illnesses can persist long past service, and our administration is proud to offer legislation that, if passed, will demonstrate our gratitude for the sacrifices of our veterans and their loved ones," the Republican added.

AGAWAM

Remembering those who served

By ELIZABETH ROMÁN
eroman@repub.com

Deborah Piesz of Ludlow met her husband, Kenneth W. Piesz, when they were in high school. Set up on a blind date, the couple ended up having three children and spending 43 years together before he died at the age of 66 in 2015.

On Monday, Memorial Day, Piesz visited the Massachusetts Veteran's Memorial Cemetery in Agawam, where her husband is buried along with thousands of other men and women who served in the military.

Standing in front of his resting place, surrounded by thousands of headstones and American flags, Piesz talked about her husband, who was in the U.S. Marine Corps and served in the Vietnam War, receiving a Purple Heart after being injured.

"He didn't talk about it much. It was a difficult experience for him. They were not treated well when they came home. He was drafted and I think a lot of people forgot that," she said.

After coming home the couple settled in their hometown of Ludlow, where Kenneth Piesz went on to work at the post office for more than 30 years.

"He was a social guy, he never gave up. He was a good guy," she said, looking down at his name engraved on the headstone. "He was very proud to be a Marine and he wanted to be buried in this cemetery. It was really important to him."

Edelmiro Rodriguez-Leon is also buried at the cemetery. He was born and raised in Ponce, Puerto Rico, and served in the U.S. Army for several years before going to college and becoming a computer engineer. He settled in Springfield to be close to his children and died at the age of 76.

"He traveled all over the country and the world to India and Singapore teaching companies how to use this new digital technology," said Edelmiro Rodriguez III, of Springfield. "My father always valued education."

Rodriguez-Leon followed in the footsteps of his father, who served in World War II, and his grandfather, who also served in the Army.

"There is a long history of military service in our family," Rodriguez said.

Military service also runs in the family for Ray Provost of South Hadley, who served in the U.S. Navy. On Monday he visited the columbarium where the ashes his parents, Dora and Roland Provost, are kept.

Both served in World War



Deborah Piesz of Ludlow visits the grave of her husband Kenneth Piesz yesterday at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)



At right, David DeChristopher of Agawam visits the grave of his parents, Rita and Louis, during a visit to the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. Above, Edelmiro Rodriguez-Leon III of Springfield visits the grave of his father, Edelmiro Rodriguez-Leon. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)



Yvette Crogan of East Longmeadow places flowers on the grave of her husband Leonard, a Korean War veteran, yesterday at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)



Ray Provost of South Hadley visits the final resting place of his parents, Dora and Roland, yesterday at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. (DON TEEGER / THE REPUBLICAN)

years later.

Ray Provost described his parents as hardworking and said his mom in particular was fond of orderliness.

"It's funny because my wife thinks I'm particular about the house and the grass and the garage, but Dora was an absolute clean freak," he said, laughing.

Placing his hands on the engraving of his parents' names, Provost stood quietly in remembrance of them and the many people buried or cremated at the Agawam cemetery.

Volunteers placed flags on more than 12,000 graves at the cemetery for Memorial Day.

CHICOOPEE

Green Beret's name added to war memorial

Relatives presented with dog tags

By JEANETTE DEFORGE
jdeforge@repub.com

LUIS DELEON-FIGUEROA

military when he was 18.

DeLeon-Figueroa's name was officially dedicated to the War on Terror monument during the annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday.

The monument also has the names of six other Chicopee natives killed in what is now the country's longest-running war.

The city honored its war dead in a scaled-down event because of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was also moved inside to the American Legion Post 452 because of the rain, but officials wanted to make sure DeLeon-Figueroa's family had a chance to see his name on the monument before the ceremony.

DeLeon-Figueroa, 31, died on Aug.

21, 2019, from wounds suffered from small-arms fire in Faryab Province in Afghanistan. He was a Green Beret

assigned to the 1st Battalion, 7th

Special Forces Group, from Eglin Air

Force Base in Florida.

The father of two girls and a

step-daughter, DeLeon-Figueroa

grew up in Chicopee and attended

Chicopee High School. He joined the



Dog tags in memory of Army Master Sgt. Luis DeLeon-Figueroa were presented Monday to his grandmother Teresa Bosque and sister Terenz DeLeon at a ceremony in Chicopee.

(DAMARIS PÉREZ-PIZARRO / THE REPUBLICAN)

friend of 1st Sgt. Kevin Dupont, who died of injuries from an explosion in Afghanistan in 2009.

After a short speech, Mayor John L. Vieau presented Terenz DeLeon and her grandmother Teresa Bosque with dog tags with her brother's name and information on them. The tags are created for each family as a part of the monument, which shows a fallen military member's boots, helmet, gun

and dog tags.

"It is nice that we can go there any time. He won't be there but his memory will be there," DeLeon said.

DeLeon said her little brother had a focused attitude but he could also be silly and was a prankster. She said when he came to see his grandmother, that was the spot he would relax, rest and recharge.

Speakers thanked all the Gold Star families in attendance who lost loved ones. Representatives of veterans' groups each placed wreaths on stands, which will later be placed on the monuments on Veterans' Plaza that honor Chicopee residents killed in the Civil War, War World I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

"To the Gold Star families, your sacrifice went above and beyond anything that you should have endured," Wagner said.

More than a million people from across the country have died in different wars. They gave their lives selflessly to protect the ideals of the country and ensure a better future, Kalin said.

"We will never forget their sacrifices," he said.

Death Notices

Services and calling hours

BARA, Ann A.
Visiting hours will be at the West Springfield Curran-Jones Wednesday 10-11am followed by a funeral home service at 11:00am with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

BEAN, Anna C.
Celebration of Life at Fairview Cemetery, Chicopee, MA, on 6/4 at 11:30 am.

BORTNICK, Catherine
Calling Hours, Wed., June 30, 5-7pm, Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., Ware. Funeral Mass, Thursday, July 1, 10AM, St. Aloysius Church, Gilbertville. CharbonneauFun.com

CAPUTO, Joseph
VH: Wed, 6/2, 4-7PM at Sampson's Chapel of the Acres. Funeral: Thurs, 6/3, 9:30 at Sampson's followed by Mass at 11AM in St. Catherine of Siena Church. Burial in Mass Vets Cem.

COTNOIR, Mary E.
A Funeral Mass for Mary will be held at 11AM on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 in Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, 127 Holyoke Rd. Westfield, MA 01085.

DAVISON, Shirley Ann
Visiting hrs at Hall Funeral Home and Tribute Center, Boothbay, ME on 6/2 from 4-7pm. Mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Boothbay Harbor, ME, on 6/3 at 10am.

FLUET, Maureen
Commital Service Fri. 3 pm Mass, Veterans Cemetery, Agawam. No Visiting Hours at St. Pierre-Phaneuf Aldenville Champs, (413-532-9806). stpierephaneuf.com

FLYNN, Ann
Calling hours Wed, June 2, 4-7PM, Trisagion Prayers at 5:30PM at Forastiere Smith, E.Long. Funeral Thurs, June 3, 10AM St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church, E. Long. Burial Oak Grove Cemetery.

FONTAINE, JR., Philip C.
The family will receive friends at Beers & Story South Hadley Funeral Home on Saturday, June 5th from 10:00-11:00 am followed by a Celebration of Life at 11:00 am.

FOX, Barbara May
Calling hours, Thursday June 3rd from 3-5 pm from the Firtion-Adams F.S., 76 Broad Street, Westfield. The funeral and burial will be held at a later date.

GALLO, Angelo L
Calling hours, Thursday June 3rd from 9:30-11am from the Firtion-Adams F.S., 76 Broad Street, Westfield. Burial St. Joseph's Cemetery, Westfield.

GOMES, Maria
Services on 6/1 from the Ludlow Funeral Home. Visiting hrs from 8:30-10am, with a Liturgy at 11am in Our Lady of Fatima Parish.

GORMAN, Philip W.
Visiting Hours Wed, 5-7 pm St. Pierre-Phaneuf Aldenville Champs (413-532-9806). Funeral Mass Thurs, 9 am St. John the Baptist Church, Ludlow stpierephaneuf.com

HERMAN, Tommy M.
Calling hours Wednesday 4-7pm at Curran-O'Brien Funeral Home. Committal service at the Mass Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Agawam on Thursday at 9am.

KOCZUR, Anne M.
Calling hours Thurs, June 3, 2021 from 9:30-10:30AM, Charbonneau Funeral Home in Ware, Funeral Mass, 11AM in All Saints Church. Burial to follow in New Saint William Cemetery, Ware.

PEZZOTE, Paul S
Visiting hours Wed, 5-7 pm St. Stanislaus Church, Chicopee, followed by burial in Calvary Cemetery, Chicopee. Grise Funeral home entrusted with arrangements.

TRUE, Natalie M.
Commital Service Friday June 4th at 2:00PM at MA Vets Memorial Cemetery, Agawam.

UBERTALLI, James A.
Funeral Service Fri June 4, 2021 at 9:30AM Farrell Funeral Home. Committal: 11:00am MA Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, Agawam. Calling hrs Thursday, June 3, 2021 4:00 to 7:00pm.

PAGE, Dorothy
Graveside June 4th 10:30AM at Billings Hill Cemetery, East Longmeadow. A gathering will be held following the burial at noon at La Cucina (the Hampden House) in Hampden, MA

VOORIS, Alice S.
Visitation Wed, 12:30-2PM New England Funeral & Cremation Center, LLC, 25 Mill Street, Springfield. Burial MA Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. www.nefcc.net

VOSBURGH, Craig M.

Visiting hours will be held at the West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home, June 4th from 4:00 - 7:00pm.

For online condolences, please visit curranjones.com.

PERRY, Brenda J.
Funeral service Wed, June 2, 2021. Wake walk through 10AM - 11AM. Services 11AM. Henderon Funeral Home, 52 Hancock St, Springfield MA. Burial Oak Grove Cem., 426 Bay Street.

YEE, Andrew Sua Sun
Calling hours will be held at Beers and Story Funeral Home, 646 Newton Street, South Hadley on Wednesday, June 2nd from 2:00-8:00pm; the Funeral Mass will take place at St. Theresa's Church, 9 Parkview Drive, South Hadley on Thursday, June 3rd at 11:00am. Following the Mass, Andy will be interred at Evergreen Cemetery.

ZERA, John A.
Service, Fri, June 4th from 10-11 AM in front of St. Joseph Church, Mass at 11:00am at St. Joseph Church, Suffield. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery, Suffield.

PANDOLFI, Elvira M.
Wake, Wed, June 2, 4-6, Tazzini Funeral Home, 22 Locust St., Springfield. Funeral, Thurs, 9am, Tazzini Funeral Home, Mass, 10am, Mt. Carmel Church, burial, St. Michael's Cemetery.

WILLIAMS, Robert E.
Funeral service at Farrell Funeral Home in Holyoke, on Tues, June 1 at 11 am. Burial to follow in Forestdale Cemetery. Calling hours will be held prior to the service from 9 to 11 am.

VOSBURGH, Craig M.

Visiting hours will be held at the West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home, June 4th from 4:00 - 7:00pm.

For online condolences, please visit curranjones.com.

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James A. Ubertalli

1928 - 2021

HOLYOKE

James Arthur Ubertalli peacefully departed this life Thursday, May 27, 2021 at his home with his family by his side. Born in Holyoke, Massachusetts, November 4, 1928, the son of James "Jack" and Christine (Demers) Ubertalli, he attended Holyoke Public Schools and Williston Academy, and earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Entomology from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst. While working in Atlanta as a technical advisor for Orkin Exterminating, he met his wife, Barbara. The young couple lived in Texas for a few years where they developed a lifelong passion for Mexican food, music and culture. Jim and his young family returned to New England where he continued his work in entomology as a manager for Terminix Industries. He also worked as a graduate entomologist serving the Baystate Medical System Environmental Services team as educator, technician and lecturer and retiring in 2003. The call to serve led Jim to join the U.S. Army ROTC while a student at UMass. He was a tank commander headed to Korea when the Pentagon recruited him, because of his entomological expertise, to be a technical advisor for the Army Medical Services Corps. Jim served in the Army Reserves for 28 years, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Among the many leadership positions he held, he was most proud of his role on the faculty of The United States Army Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the renowned graduate military college. In recent years, he found immense pride and camaraderie with a new band of brothers at the American Legion Post 351 and served as District Historian. His quiet affability and keen sense of humor earned him many friends. Jim was proud of his hometown, Holyoke, and was called upon and gladly served in many volunteer capacities including Sunday School teacher and deacon of the Second Congregational Church, fire commissioner, youth hockey coach and scoutmaster of Troop 670 where he mentored many Eagle Scouts. He was also a



lifelong sports fan and enjoyed some glory as starting center for Holyoke High football and Williston Academy where he was part of the school's celebrated undefeated team, the first in fifty years. In retirement, he spent time oil painting WWII aircraft and birds, reading voluminous historical accounts on the American Civil War and WWII and traveling with his family annually to Disneyworld and other far-flung destinations. Jim will be remembered by the lives he touched for his warm kindness, gentle sense of humor and keen interest in learning and sharing what he had learned. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 65 years, Barbara, his daughter Donna Lee and son Jimmy and daughter-in-law Harriet, his grandchildren Sophia and George, his brother Don, nieces Linda and JoAnne and nephew Jack. Exceptional in his humility, passionately proud and loyal to his friends and family, he will be dearly missed. A Funeral Home Service will be held for Jim on Friday, June 4, 2021 at 9:30am in the Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home, 2049 Northampton Street, Holyoke followed by Committal with Military Honors at 11:00am in the Chapel of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1390 Main Street, Agawam. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, June 3, 2021 from 4:00 to 7:00pm. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in memory of James A. Ubertalli to support cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284 or via www.jimmyfund.org/gift.

ZERA, John A.
Service, Fri, June 4th from 10-11 AM in front of St. Joseph Church, Mass at 11:00am at St. Joseph Church, Suffield. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery, Suffield.

John A. Zera

1955 - 2021

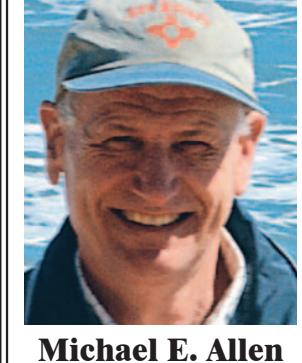


SUFFIELD, CT

John A. "JZ" Zera, 65, of Suffield, died quietly at home on Sunday, May 23, 2021 after a long illness. He was born November 21, 1955 in Hartford, son of the late Henry and Irene (Krajewski) Zera he lived in Suffield most all his life. He graduated from Suffield High School in 1973 and worked for Zera Equipment as a mechanic and salesman. Later John began his own business, Concrete Restoration Company, which he ran for the last two decades. John leaves behind his brother, Tom Zera of Suffield, a sister, Barbara (Zera) Contois and her husband Richard of Springfield, MA; two nephews, Nathaniel Contois and his wife Jenn and their son John (Jack), and Ely Contois. John made many friends over his lifetime, and hopes they remember him kindly and with a smile. His family will receive friends Friday, June 4, 2021, from 10-11 AM in front of St. Joseph Church, 140 S. Main St., Suffield followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM at St. Joseph Church, Suffield. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery, Suffield. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Suffield Ambulance Association, PO Box 642, Suffield, CT 06078. Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home has care of arrangements. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

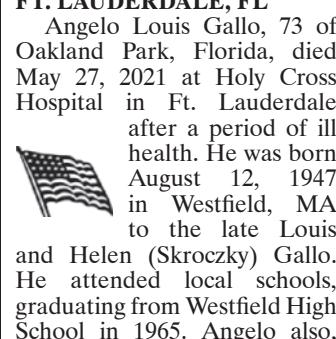
IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of



Angelo L Gallo

1947 - 2021



FT. LAUDERDALE, FL
Angelo Louis Gallo, 73 of Oakland Park, Florida, died May 27, 2021 at Holy Cross in Ft. Lauderdale after a period of ill health. He was born August 12, 1947 in Westfield, MA to the late Louis and Helen (Skroczky) Gallo. He attended local schools, graduating from Westfield High School in 1965. Angelo also, graduating from Northampton Commercial College in 1967 and UMass Amherst in 1975. He served in the U.S. Army from 1968-1970 attaining the rank of sergeant while stationed in Germany. For many years he was employed by Columbia Manufacturing Co. in Westfield. Later he attended the Connecticut Culinary Institute to begin a second career as a chef. He worked at numerous restaurants throughout Western Mass. Twenty years ago he moved to Florida and started working at the Hard Rock Cafe in one of the casinos. In "retirement" he continued to work part-time at Costco. Angelo is survived by his wife Susan of Easthampton, two sons Jeffrey Gallo and his partner Karen Murphy of Easthampton, Christopher Gallo and his wife Lynna of Goshen, one granddaughter Kierstin, two step-grandchildren Bella and Deacon. One great-grandson Gabriel, his brother Thomas Gallo and his wife Linda of Westfield and his sister Kathleen Taylor and her husband Trent of Westfield. He also leaves several nieces and nephews, many cousins and cherished friends. He was kind and gentle, loved many, and missed by all. Calling hours will be held on Thursday June 3rd from 9:30-11am from the Firtion-Adams Funeral Service, 76 Broad Street Westfield. Burial will follow in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Westfield. Donations may be made to the American Heart Association or a charity of your choice. Firtionadams.com

Maureen C. Witek

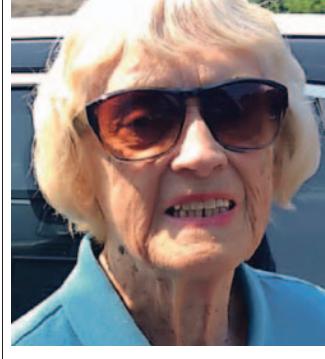
1934 - 2020

HOLYOKE

Maureen Carol (Maher) Witek, 85, passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer on June 9, 2020, surrounded by her family. Maureen, a lifelong resident of Holyoke, was the daughter of the late John Maher and Esther Obuchowski. She attended Sacred Heart Schools where she graduated in 1953. She then went on to work for Greater Holyoke Medical Associates and retired in 1997. Maureen was predeceased by her husband Frederick in 2015 and her sister Pat in 2016. She was a great friend to all animals, there were several dogs and cats that have kept her company in her lifetime. Reading was a passion of hers, and she was always willing to share the latest book she had read. She liked to travel and could be found many summers on Cape Cod. Maureen is survived by her sister Jackie Calkins and her husband John of Maryland, her son John, his wife Diana and her grandson Matthew of Virginia, her son Stephen who was her caregiver, several nieces and nephews and her granddaughter Erin Brady. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, June 8th from 1 to 2:30 pm at the Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home, 2049 Northampton Street. Burial will follow in the Chapel of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1390 Main Street, Agawam. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a donation to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123, or to Dana Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284

Barbara May Fox

1935 - 2021



WEST SPRINGFIELD

Barbara May Fox "Badue" was born on September 14th 1935 to John Fox and Frances Elmira Baker Fox. She enjoyed her work as a photographer at Tooke studio, Digital and Greniers. After retirement, she worked at Lcrenski Brothers as a school bus monitor and loved the interaction with the children everyday. Her passions in life were people watching and spending time spoiling her only three grandchildren. If you knew her, you would remember her. One of her many nicknames was "Gabby" because she loved to talk to anyone who would listen. She leaves behind her son Brian Fox of Westfield, her three grandchildren Trisha Fox of Chicopee, Brianna Fox of Longmeadow and Nichole Fox of Agawam Fox, her adored godchild Kerrie Marcoulier, and so many other cousins, friends and family. She had a beautiful soul and will be dearly missed by so many. Calling hours will take place on Thursday June 3rd from 3-5 pm from the Firtion-Adams Funeral Service, 76 Broad Street, Westfield. The funeral and burial will be held at a later date. Firtionadams.com

FARRELL FUNERAL HOME

(413) 536-3843

For more information visit barryjfarrelfuneralhome.com

A PRAYER

TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit, You who made me see everything and showed me the way to reach my ideal. You, who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you, who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you no matter how great the material desire may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Amen. Thank you for your love towards me and my loved ones. Persons must pray the prayer three consecutive days without asking your wish. After third day wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Then promise to publish this dialogue as soon as this favor is granted. I will never stop trusting in God and His power.

Express Your Sympathy Online

Obituaries that appear in The Republican also appear on MassLive.com and Legacy.com. Providing obituaries online allows family and friends near and far, access to service information. You can also express your condolences and share memories in the online guestbook provided anytime day or night.

To find an obituary and access a guestbook, go to www.masslive.com/obits

Remember A Loved One

An In Memoriam is a meaningful way to celebrate and honor the life of a loved one on a birthday, anniversary of death or any important occasion. In Memoriams will also appear on MassLive.com and Legacy.com and include an online guestbook.

For more information or to place one,

Call 413-788-1234

or email

Classified-obits@repub.com

Remember A Loved One

An In Memoriam is a meaningful way to celebrate and honor the life of a loved one on a birthday, anniversary of death or any important occasion. In Memoriams will also appear on MassLive.com and Legacy.com and include an online guestbook.

For more information or

The Republican.

For the latest forecast, go to MassLive.com



WARMTH IS BACK!

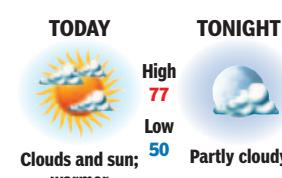
Finally, temperatures are back to normal today. Highs this afternoon will rise into the mid-70s for most, which is close to average for June 1. We will see a mix of clouds and sun, but remain rain-free and comfortable. Humidity and shower chances will be increasing Wednesday to Friday as our next system approaches. No washouts are expected and we will remain quite warm, but a spotty shower or thunderstorm is possible Wednesday, then scattered Thursday and Friday. While the weekend is looking mainly rain-free, it is certainly looking hot and humid! Temperatures may hit the mid-80s on Saturday and the low 90s on Sunday and Monday!

SKYWATCH

The crescent moon rises in the east about 2 a.m. tomorrow morning with bright Jupiter and dimmer Saturn shining to its upper right. The trio arcs up and to the south until morning's light overwhelms them.

— Patrick Rowan

THE WEATHER FORECAST



TODAY



High

77

Low

50

Clouds and sun; warmer

TONIGHT



Partly cloudy

TOMORROW



High

80

Low

55

Mostly sunny, p.m. shower

THURSDAY



High

76

Low

63

Scattered showers

FRIDAY



High

78

Low

60

A shower and thunderstorm

SATURDAY



High

85

Low

62

Decreasing clouds, hot!

ALMANAC

At The Republican weather station ending at 5 p.m. yesterday.

TEMPERATURE

Yesterday's high	61 at 5:00 p.m.
Yesterday's low	47 at 1:00 a.m.
Normal high	75
Normal low	54
Record high	94 in 2013
Record low	33 in 1990

Normal, record temperatures and rainfall recorded at Westover Air Reserve Base

ATMOSPHERE & WIND

Yesterday's high humidity	100%
Low humidity	69%
High barometric pressure	30.16 in.
Low barometric pressure	30.12 in.
Peak wind	10 mph at 7:00 a.m.

POLLEN COUNT

Grass N.A.

Trees N.A.

Weeds N.A.

Mold N.A.

AIR QUALITY

Yesterday Good

Today Good

Air Quality Source: MassDEP

PRECIPITATION

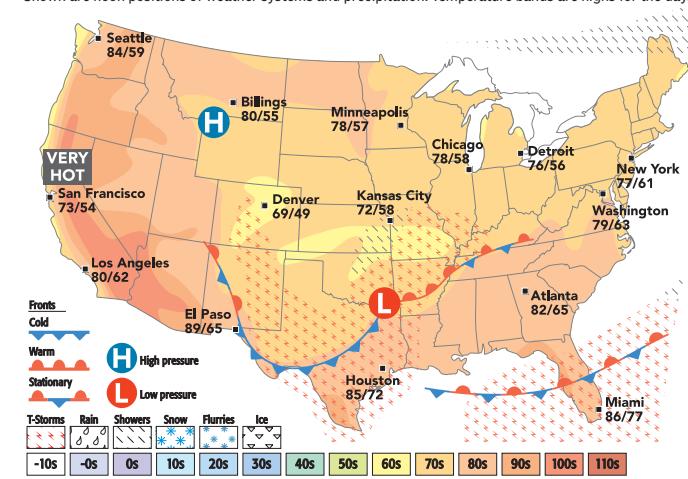
Rain yesterday 0.14 inches

Month total 5.15 inches

Year total 16.60 inches

NATIONAL WEATHER MAP TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



NATIONAL FORECAST

City	Today		Wed.		City	Today		Wed.	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo		Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Albuquerque	79/57	/pc	83/60	/pc	Nashville	80/65	/c	77/65	/t
Atlantic City	70/60	/pc	69/60	/pc	New Orleans	88/75	/pc	87/74	/t
Baltimore	79/59	/pc	79/62	/pc	New York City	77/61	/pc	75/60	/pc
Burlington	74/54	/c	80/63	/c	Orlando	88/71	/t	88/72	/t
Charleston, SC	82/67	/s	83/71	/sh	Philadelphia	79/60	/pc	78/61	/pc
Charlotte	81/61	/pc	83/66	/pc	Phoenix	103/78	/s	105/79	/pc
Dallas	78/64	/c	82/66	/t	Portland, ME	75/54	/pc	76/57	/pc
Des Moines	76/56	/c	78/57	/pc	Salt Lake City	88/61	/s	91/66	/s
Fairbanks	62/50	/c	66/48	/c	San Francisco	73/54	/s	67/55	/pc
Honolulu	88/75	/pc	87/77	/pc	San Juan	87/76	/pc	87/77	/pc
Las Vegas	102/78	/s	104/78	/pc	Seattle	84/59	/pc	82/58	/s
Los Angeles	80/62	/pc	80/63	/pc	St. Louis	75/61	/r	71/61	/t
Washington, D.C.	79/63	/c	86/77	/pc	Tucson	98/70	/s	98/69	/s

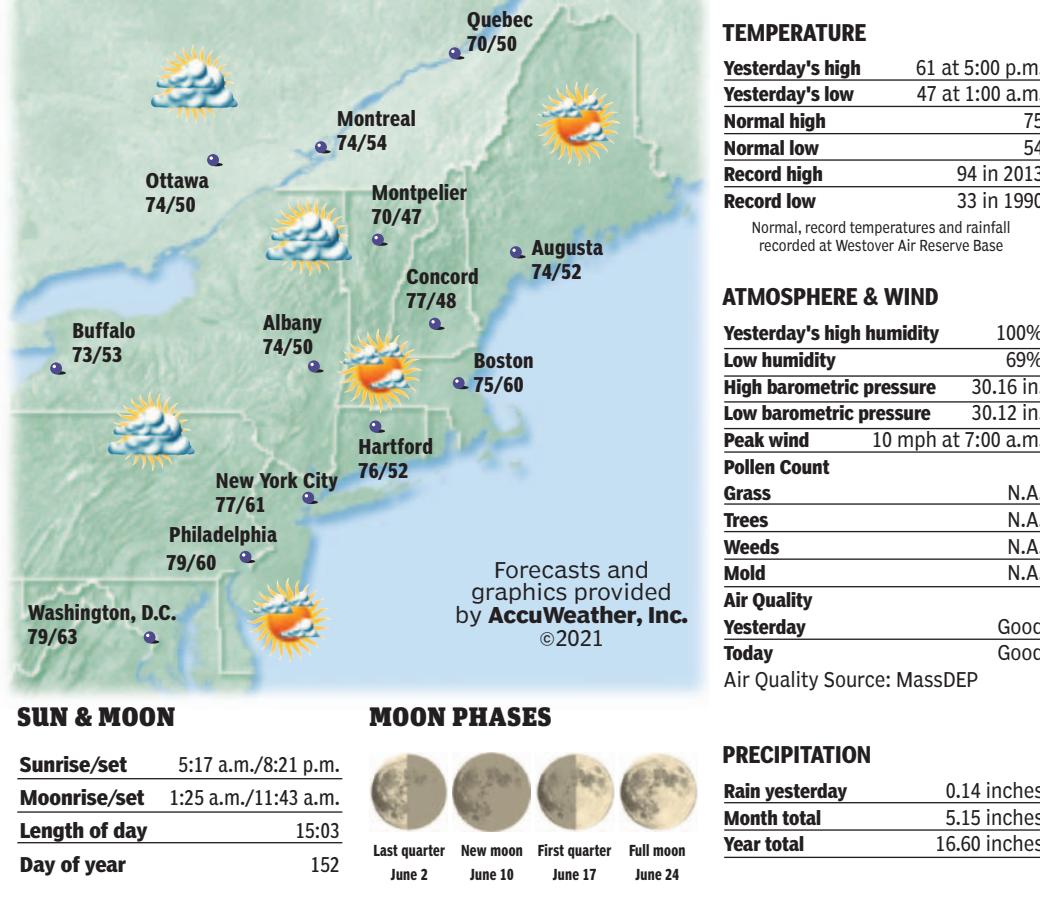
WORLD FORECAST

City	Today		Wed.		City	Today		Wed.	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo		Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Athens	78/61	/pc	78/61	/pc	Mexico City	79/58	/t	69/56	/t
Baghdad	110/77	/pc	107/77	/pc	Montreal	74/54	/c	79/59	/s
Beijing	82/61	/pc	80/61	/c	Moscow	61/46	/c	64/49	/c
Berlin	73/51	/pc	74/54	/t	Nassau	84/75	/t	84/74	/t
Dublin	66/53	/pc	62/52	/t	Paris	82/59	/s	77/62	/t
Jerusalem	80/61	/s	76/57	/s	Rio de Janeiro	76/69	/t	81/72	/s
Johannesburg	55/37	/sh	56/39	/sh	Rome	76/55	/s	75/57	/pc
Kabul	92/62	/s	92/62	/s	Seoul	75/60	/c	83/62	/pc
Lima	66/62	/pc	66/61	/c	Sydney	67/50	/pc	67/54	/c
Lisbon	70/55	/pc	71/56	/pc	Tokyo	74/66	/pc	75/67	/pc
London	76/57	/pc	77/58	/pc	Vienna	67/46	/pc	71/52	/pc
Madrid	81/54	/t	84/59	/pc	Warsaw	66/47	/pc	67/50	/c

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, r-rain, t-thunderstorms, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-iice

REGIONAL WEATHER MAP

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



PARIS

Macron: Wiretapping 'not acceptable between allies'

Washington Post

French President Emmanuel Macron on Monday declared that wiretapping "is not acceptable between allies" and called on the United States for clarity, after new claims emerged about National Security Agency efforts to spy on European leaders between 2012 and 2014.

Denmark's public broadcaster reported over the weekend that the Danish for-

iegn intelligence service had helped the NSA gain access to underwater Internet cables, allowing officials to track calls, messages, chats and browsing histories of select targets in an operation code-named "Dunhammer."

The NSA's wiretapping of friendly foreign leaders, including German Chancellor Angela Merkel, was first revealed in documents leaked by former contractor Edward

Snowden in 2013. According to the latest reports, the Danish agency also helped the NSA to monitor officials and high-profile politicians in France, Norway and Sweden.

The practice, current and former U.S. officials say, should not come as a surprise, because countries routinely spy on one another - even allies.

A spokeswoman for the National Security Council

declined to comment on Monday. A spokesman for the NSA also declined to comment.

"There is no room for suspicion between" the United States and its European allies, Macron said Monday, speaking after a Franco-German video summit. "We requested that our Danish and American partners provide all

Sports

B | The Republican. | TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021

CELTICS

Season on brink after big loss in Game 4

By SOUICHI TERADA

sterada@masslive.com

BOSTON — Among all the off-court, extracurricular activities that came from the end of Sunday night's playoff game, when a fan threw a water bottle at Kyrie Irving, the Celtics find themselves in a dire situation — one loss away from elimination and a potentially soul-searching offseason.

The Celtics were blown out by the Nets 141-126 in Game 4 at TD Garden and now trail the series 3-1.

Boston came out strong, even leading after the first quarter, but Brooklyn was overwhelming. The Nets offense was clicking at perhaps the highest level as they shot 57.8% from the field and 59.3% on 3-pointers.

There were some small positives. Boston coach Brad Stevens said the Celtics' effort was consistent all night, never waning despite the lopsided score. There were some things they could fix, Stevens said, but the Nets were that good.



Brooklyn guard Kyrie Irving looks up at the fans in TD Garden after Sunday night's playoff win over Boston.

(ELISE AMENDOLA / ASSOCIATED PRESS)

It wasn't an effort issue, but instead a clear talent gap that couldn't be filled by the short-handed Boston roster.

"We made a lot of adjustments and the adjustments were worse because what that did was that separated the game," Stevens said. "When you talk about playoff basketball, obviously you want to adjust appropriately, but doing it a little bit better or staying the course when you're navigating a game or at least within arm's reach, sometimes it's the right move."

Brooklyn's star trio scored a combined 104 points, gashing Boston through isolos, pick-and-rolls and whatever else the Nets decided.

Jayson Tatum said it's all a "one game at a time" mentality going forward. The Celtics showed in Game 3 that they can beat the Nets, but they needed a lot of factors to go their way — the same ones that fell short Sunday. But there's still another game, he said.

"They are a really good team," Tatum said. "We knew that coming into the series. We knew that it wasn't going to be easy, and I think from game to game, it's just about making adjustments, and that's what we are going to do."

Full house

There wasn't much the TD Garden crowd could cheer for after the first quarter, but they were plenty electric throughout. Any positive play by the Celtics was loudly cheered by 17,226 fans.

The thrown water bottle put an extra damper on the night, but the C's said they didn't want one bad seed to spoil what was a supportive crowd.

"It was great having the fans

SEE CELTICS, PAGE B2

MLB: Braves outfielder granted bond, B2

SCOREBOARD, B2

COMICS, B4-5

AMERICAN LEAGUE | ASTROS 11, RED SOX 2

Off on the wrong foot

Rodriguez struggles in opener of important 7-game road trip



Red Sox right fielder Hunter Renfroe chases Kyle Tucker's single in the second inning yesterday in Houston. (KAREN WARREN / HOUSTON CHRONICLE VIA AP)

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Kyle Tucker had a season-best three hits and tied a career high with four RBIs as the Houston Astros beat former bench coach Alex Cora and the Red Sox 11-2 yesterday in the opening tilt of a seven-game Boston road trip.

This was the first time Cora, now managing the Red Sox, had faced the Astros since being suspended in 2020 for his role in Houston's sign-stealing scheme while with the team in 2017.

Cora helped Houston win the World Series in 2017, then guided Boston to the 2018 title. He was fired by the Red Sox after his suspension, then rehired last November.

"I got suspended," Cora said, reflecting on the scandal before the game. "That's something that will always be on my resume and I think at the end, we all made a mistake. We all messed up,

and we all are paying the price."

Astros starter Jose Urquidy (4-2) did his part in ending Boston's three-game winning streak. He yielded three hits and one run, striking out nine in six innings in his return from the injured list.

Urquidy, who had been out since May 12 with shoulder inflammation, won his career-best fourth straight decision.

The recent struggles for Eduardo Rodriguez (5-4) continued when he allowed a season-high six runs and seven hits in 4 1/3 innings to extend his losing streak to a career-long four games. He struck out four and walked two, pitching just four innings his last time out.

Jose Altuve hit a two-run homer and Alex Bregman drove in two runs for Houston.

The Astros got things going by hitting three consecutive singles with no outs in the second before taking a 1-0 lead on a sacrifice fly by Taylor Jones. Myles Straw then grounded into a

double play that scored another run.

Martin Maldonado singled to start Houston's third before Altuve homered into the seats in left field to extend the lead to 4-0. That homer was the 140th of Altuve's career, moving him past Bob Watson and into sole possession of eighth place on the franchise's all-time list.

Altuve singled with one out in the fifth and Rodriguez walked Bregman with two outs. Colten Brewer, just added to the Boston roster, relieved and walked Carlos Correa to load the bases, and Tucker grounded a two-run single to center to make it 6-0.

Bregman's two-run single highlighted a five-run sixth.

Alex Verdugo hit an RBI double in the Boston sixth and Hunter Renfroe homered in the eighth.

Boston's Garrett Richards (4-3, 3.83 ERA) opposes Luis Garcia (3-3, 2.93) when the four-game series continues tonight.

TENNIS | FRENCH OPEN

Federer makes strong return

Serena Williams fends off 2 set points to win opener

By JOHN LEICESTER AND SAMUEL PETREQUIN

Associated Press

PARIS — They feted Roger Federer with as loud as applause gets from a crowd capped at 1,000 people in Court Philippe Chatrier — when he walked out with a wave, when he hit one of his 48 winners, even when he attempted a back-to-the-net 'tweener and hit the ball out.

This match bathed in sunshine yesterday meant Federer finally was back at the French Open and back in Grand Slam action and he gave the excited fans what they wanted perhaps as much as he did: a victory.

Federer's first competition at any major tournament in 16 months ended with him on the right side of a 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 score against qualifier Denis Istomin at the French Open as fans chanted "Ro-ger! Ro-ger!"

It was a case of many happy returns — and serves, forehands, backhands, volleys and drop shots, too.

"What a pleasure to be back," Federer said.

Serena Williams won in the first scheduled night session in French Open history, erasing two set points to beat Irina-Camelia Begu 7-6, 6-2 under the lights.

Federer showed no signs of rust or trouble



Roger Federer waves to the crowd after defeating Denis Istomin yesterday in the first round match of the French Open in Paris.

(THIBAULT CAMUS / ASSOCIATED PRESS)

with the right knee that needed two operations last year. He produced more than twice as many winners as his 20 unforced errors and never faced a break point while improving to 8-0 against Istomin over their careers.

"Always great to be on court with this legend. To play against him is always a big (deal)," Istomin said. "I was expecting all the spectators to cheer for him."

They sure did, with one voice from the stands shouting, "A delight, Roger! A delight!" as Federer went up 4-2 in the third set.

SEE FEDERER, PAGE B2

4-time Slam champ Osaka withdraws

By HOWARD FENDRICH

Associated Press

Naomi Osaka withdrew from the French Open yesterday, writing on Twitter that she would be taking a break from competition, a dramatic turn of events for a four-time Grand Slam champion who said she has "suffered long bouts of depression."

Osaka's agent, Stuart Duguid, confirmed in an email to The Associated Press that the world's No. 2-ranked tennis player was pulling out before her second-round match at the clay-court tournament in Paris.

The stunning move came a day after Osaka, a 23-year-old who was born in Japan and moved with her family to the U.S. at age 3, was fined \$15,000 for skipping the postmatch news conference after her first-round victory at the French Open. She also was threatened by all four Grand Slam tournaments with possible additional punishment, including disqualification or suspension, if she continued with her intention — which Osaka revealed last week on Twitter — to not "do any press during Roland Garros."

She framed the matter as a mental health issue, saying that it can create self-doubt to have to answer questions after a loss.

"First and foremost we are sorry and sad for

SEE OSAKA, PAGE B2

MLB

Braves outfielder granted bond

Atlanta Braves outfielder Marcell Ozuna was granted a \$20,000 bond yesterday on charges of aggravated assault by strangulation and battery against his wife.

Ozuna was jailed Saturday after police officers in the Atlanta suburb of Sandy Springs said they witnessed him attacking his wife, Genesis, while responding to a 911 call.

A statement from the Sandy Springs Police Department said officers entered a home where the front door was open and heard screaming. Officers said they saw Ozuna grab his wife by the neck and throw her against a wall, in addition to striking her with a cast on his injured left hand.

Ozuna could face a long suspension by Major League Baseball, which plans to review the matter under the joint domestic violence policy in place between MLB and the players' union.

— Associated Press

NHL

Kadri's 8-game suspension OK'd

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman upheld an eight-game suspension issued to Colorado forward Nazem Kadri following his illegal check to the head of Blues defenseman Justin Faulk in Game 2 of a first-round series against St. Louis.

Bettman heard Kadri's appeal before announcing his decision yesterday. The incident took place at 6:26 of the third period on May 19 in Game 2. Kadri was assessed a match penalty for the check to Faulk.

Kadri has already missed three games.

If the suspension — the sixth of Kadri's career — is not completed during the playoffs, any remaining games will be served at the beginning of next season.

— Associated Press

Vegas forward suspended

Vegas forward Ryan Reaves was suspended two games by the NHL yesterday for his roughing and unsportsmanlike conduct on Colorado's Ryan Graves during the Golden Knights' 7-1 loss Sunday.

Reaves drew a match penalty for attempting to injure Graves at 8:04 of the third period.

The NHL said both the officials and Reaves acknowledged "a chunk of Graves' hair was pulled out by Reaves" during the scrum. The league also noted Reaves' actions — the roughing and unsportsmanlike conduct — were "retaliation" for an earlier hit by Graves on Mattias Janmark.

Reaves has been fined twice and suspended twice previously.

— Associated Press

WORLD HOCKEY

Unbeaten US downs Germany

Cal Petersen made 33 saves for his second consecutive shutout and the United States won its fifth straight game yesterday at the world hockey championships, 2-0 over Germany.

Jason Robertson and Colin Blackwell scored for the U.S., which will close out its preliminary round today against Italy in Riga, Latvia.

Germany outshot the U.S. 33-15.

Russia edged Sweden 3-2 in a shootout.

Switzerland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic also will advance from Group A to the quarterfinals.

In the other Group B game Norway posted a 3-1 win over Kazakhstan.

Finland and the U.S. both have 15 points and have advanced to the quarterfinals.

— Associated Press

Federer

CONTINUES FROM PAGE B1

Federer, whose 40th birthday is Aug. 8, hadn't appeared on the Grand Slam stage since Jan. 30, 2020, when he lost to Novak Djokovic in the Australian Open semifinals.

This was just Federer's second trip to the French Open since 2015. In addition to last year's absence because of the knee issues, he withdrew in 2016 citing a bad back, then sat out the clay-court circuit each of the next two years to focus on the grass-court portion of the season.

He acknowledged recently he has zero chance of claiming the trophy this time around in Paris; instead, he is hoping to tune up his game to be ready to challenge for a championship at Wimbledon, where play begins in late June.

"In a way I like this situation — that I don't know what's next, how my next match will be. I don't even know who I play, to be honest," said Federer, whose second-round opponent will be 2014 U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic. "I take it round by round, match by match."

After rhythmic clapping accompanied Federer's trot to the baseline for the match's opening point, he got off to the perfect start against Istomin, who is ranked 204th and now is the owner of a seven-match Grand Slam losing streak but did upset Djokovic at the 2017 Australian Open.

Federer used a drop shot to earn a break point in the opening game, then converted it with a forehand winner, before holding to go up 2-0.

Just 1½ hours later, it was over for Federer, who won the 2009 French Open for one of his 20 Grand Slam titles.

He shares that men's record with rival Rafael Nadal, who is scheduled to play his first-round match today to open his bid for a 14th champion-

ship in Paris and tiebreaking 21st major overall. Djokovic also is slated to make his debut on Day 3 of the clay-court tournament.

Williams and Begu took the court in the twilight at 9 p.m. with the stadium stands empty. Fans are being admitted for day matches this year, but not for night sessions.

Williams wasn't sharp with her serve but played aggressively, charging forward when she had the chance. Facing a set point in the tiebreaker, she dashed in and from the service line ripped a nervy swinging volley for a winner.

At 39, she seeks her fourth French Open title and a record-tying 24th Grand Slam singles title.

Bianca Andreescu, the 2019 U.S. Open champion, departed in the afternoon with a 6-7 (1), 7-6 (2), 9-7 defeat against 85th-ranked Tamara Zidansek of Slovenia.

The reigning women's champion, Iga Swiatek, picked up right where she left off last year: running yet another opponent this way and that in a 6-0, 7-5 victory over her best friend on the tennis circuit, Kaja Juvan.

Daniil Medvedev proved that perseverance pays, finally winning a French Open match on his fifth attempt. The second-seeded Russian, twice a runner-up at other majors, beat Alexander Bublik 6-3, 6-3, 7-5, after starting 0-4 for his French Open career.

Today, Rafael Nadal will start his bid for a record-extending 14th title against Alexei Popyrin. The defending champion is also seeking a 21st major title.

Top-ranked Novak Djokovic, who lost to Nadal in last year's final, is also in action, taking on Tenny Sandgren in the night session. In the women's draw, No. 1 seed Ash Barty starts her campaign against Bernarda Pera. No. 5 seed Elina Svitolina is up against local hope Oceane Babel of France.

bright his future is.

"Just trying to get better, each and every game, each and every season," he said. "The most important thing each and every night is trying to win. On a nightly basis, just try to do all I can to help my team get a win."

Odd lineups

Smart and Tristan Thompson got into early foul trouble with two infractions each, forcing Stevens to turn to his already thin bench for extended stretches. The first iteration was treading water at the end of the first quarter; the second iteration buried the C's at the start of the second quarter.

Kemba Walker and Robert Williams III were both out Sunday. While Walker could be back by Game 5, Williams is less certain. He spent the past couple of days in a walking boot, and it doesn't appear he'll play again this season.

accept that my timing was not ideal and my message could have been clearer."

She continued: "Anyone that knows me knows I'm introverted, and anyone that has seen me at the tournaments will notice that I'm often wearing headphones as that helps dull my social anxiety. ... I am not a natural public speaker and get huge waves of anxiety before I speak to the world's media."

Osaka has never been past the third round on the French Open's red clay. It takes seven victories to win a Grand Slam title, which she has done four times at hard-court tournaments: the U.S. Open in 2018 and 2020; the Australian Open in 2019 and this February.

"Here in Paris I was already feeling vulnerable and anxious so I thought it was better to exercise self-care and skip the press conferences," she wrote.

"Mental health and awareness around it is one of the highest priorities for the WTA," the women's tennis tour said in a statement emailed by a spokeswoman.

"We have invested significant resources, staffing and educational tools in this area for the past 20-plus years and continue to develop our mental health support system for the betterment of the athletes and the organization. We remain here to support and assist Naomi in any way possible and we hope to see her back on the court soon."

Osaka

CONTINUES FROM PAGE B1

Naomi Osaka. The outcome of Naomi withdrawing from Roland Garros is unfortunate, French tennis federation president Gilles Moretton said yesterday. "We wish her the best and the quickest possible recovery. And we look forward to having Naomi in our tournament next year."

Moretton said the four major tournaments, and the professional tennis tours, "remain very committed to all athletes' well-being and to continually improving every aspect of players' experience in our tournament, including with the media, like we always have."

In yesterday's post, Osaka spoke about dealing with depression since the 2018 U.S. Open, which she won by beating Serena Williams in a final filled with controversy.

"I would never trivialize mental health or use the term lightly," Osaka wrote.

She also said speaking with the media makes her anxious.

"I think now the best thing for the tournament, the other players and my well-being is that I withdraw so that everyone can get back to focusing on the tennis going on in Paris," Osaka wrote.

"I never wanted to be a distraction and I

SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

TENNIS

French Open

MONDAY

At Stade Roland Garros, Paris (seedings in parentheses)

Men's Singles

FIRST ROUND

John Isner (31), United States, def. Sam Querrey, United States, 7-6 (2), 6-3, 6-4.

Thiago Monteiro, Brazil, def. Francisco Cerundolo, Argentina, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Filip Krajinovic, Serbia, def. Maximilian Marterer, Germany, 6-4, 6-1, 7-6 (3).

Gianluca Mager, Italy, def. Peter Gojowczyk, Germany, 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Steve Johnson, United States, def. Frances Tiafoe, United States, 6-7 (5), 3-6, 6-4, 6-2, 6-1.

Jannik Sinner (18), Italy, def. Pierre-Hugues Herbert, France, 6-1, 4-6, 6-7 (4), 7-5, 6-4.

Federico Delbonis, Argentina, def. Radu Albot, Moldova, 6-1, 2-6, 6-0, 6-1.

Cameron Norrie, Britain, def. Bjorn Fratangelo, United States, 7-5, 6-5 (6), 6-2.

Daniil Medvedev (2), Russia, def. Alexander Bublik, Kazakhstan, 6-3, 6-3, 7-5.

Casper Ruud (15), Norway, def. Benoit Paire, France, 5-7, 6-2, 6-1, 7-6 (4).

Reilly Opelka (32), United States, def. Andrej Martin, Slovakia, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

Nikoloz Basilashvili (28), Georgia, def. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0, 6-2.

Tommy Paul, United States, def. Christopher O'Connell, Australia, 6-2, 4-6, 4-6, 6-4, 10-8.

Pedro Martinez, Spain, def. Sebastian Korda, United States, 6-4, 6-2, 6-6.

Roger Federer (8), Switzerland, def. Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, 6-2, 6-4, 6-3.

Carlos Alcaraz, Spain, def. Bernabe Zapata Miralles, Spain, 6-3, 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (4).

Jaume Munar, Spain, def. Jordan Thompson, Australia, 6-7 (6), 6-1, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Lloyd Harris, South Africa, def. Lorenzo Sonego (26), Italy, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Marin Cilic, Croatia, def. Arthur Rinderknech, France, 6-7 (6), 6-1, 6-2.

Lorenzo Musetti, Italy, def. David Goffin (13), Belgium, 6-0, 7-5, 6-3.

Yoshihito Nishioka, Japan, def. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, France, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

Women's Singles

FIRST ROUND

Madison Brengle, United States, def. Maria Camila Osorio Serrano, Colombia, 7-5, 6-4.

Marketa Vondrousova (20), Czech Republic, def. Kaia Kanepi, Estonia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-0.

Harmony Tan, France, def. Alize Cornet, France, 6-4, 6-4.

Polona Hercog, Slovenia, def. Kiki Bertens (16), Netherlands, 6-1, 6-3, 6-4.

Iga Swiatek (8), Poland, def. Kaja Juvan, Slovenia, 6-0, 7-5.

Rebecca Peterson, Sweden, def. Shelby Rogers, United States, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (8), 6-2.

Halley Baptiste, United States, def. Anna Blinkova, Russia, 6-1, 6-4.

Zarina Diyas, Kazakhstan, def. Heather Watson, Britain, 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-2.

Elise Mertens (14), Belgium, def. Storm Sanders, Australia, 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.

Caroline Garcia, France, def. Laura Siegemund, Germany, 6-3, 6-1.

Tamara Zidansek, Slovenia, def. Bianca Andreescu (6), Canada, 6-7 (1), 7-6 (2), 9-7.

Sorana Cîrstea, Romania, def. Johanna Konta (19), Britain, 6-7 (5), 6-2.

Belinda Bencic (10), Switzerland, def. Nadia Podoroska, Argentina, 6-0, 6-3.

Varvara Gracheva, Russia, def. Lara Arruabarrena, Spain, 6-2, 6-3.

Sofia Kenin (4), United States, def. Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.

Mihaela Buzarnescu, Romania, def. Arantxa Rus, Netherlands, 7-5, 7-5.

Martina Trevisan, Italy, def. Alison van Uytvanck, Belgium, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.

Marta Kostyuk, Ukraine, def. Garbine Muguruza (12), Spain, 6-1, 6-4.

Daria Kasatkina, Russia, def. Misaki Doi, Japan, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3.

Jessica Pegula (28), United States, def. Zhu Lin, China, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Zheng Saisai, China, def. Sara Sorribes Tormo, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Tereza Martinova, Czech Republic, def. Ivana Jorovic, Serbia, 6-3, 6-7 (6), 6-4.

Camila Giorgi, Italy,

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Witness, Gordon H. Piper,

Chief Justice of this Court

on June 14, 2021.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

19971

(June 1)

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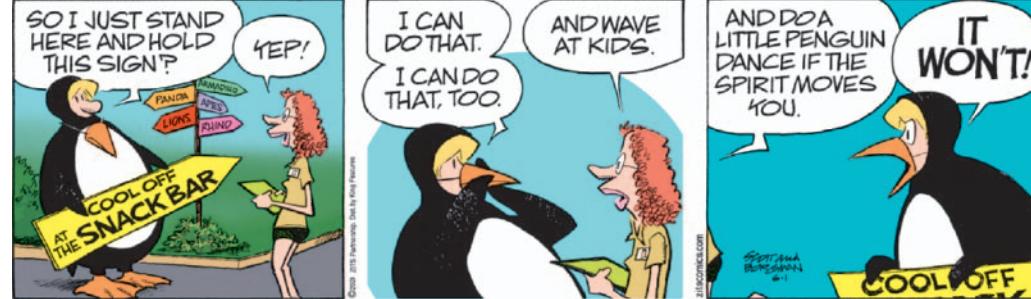
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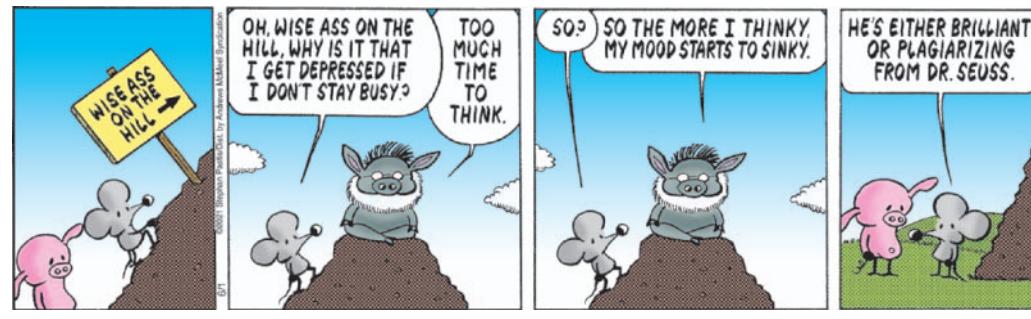


"BY THE WAY, HELEN LENHART CALLED TO SAY YOU WERE LURKING IN HER GARDEN AGAIN."

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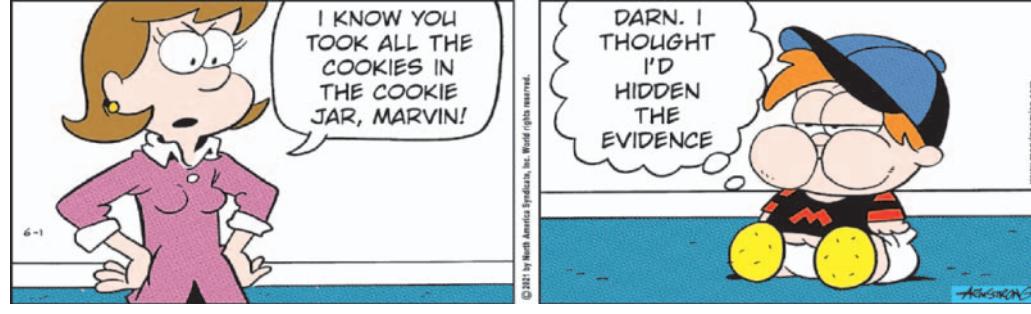
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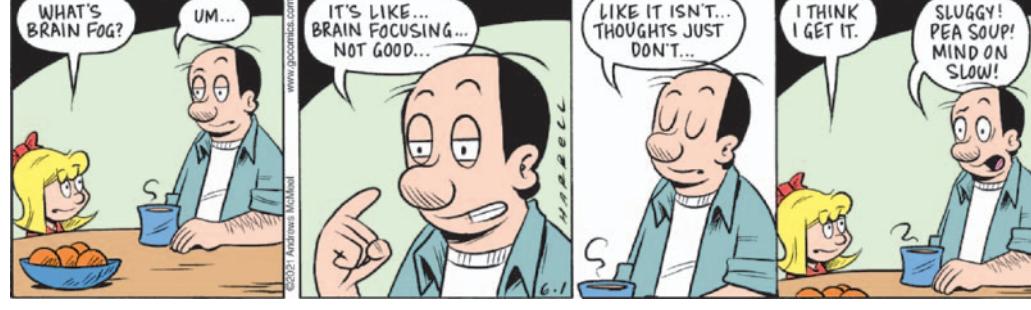
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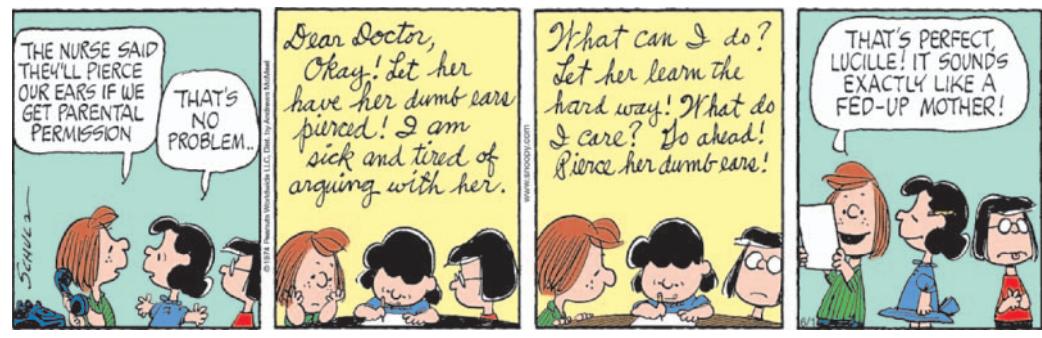


"The birds are DRINKING their bathwater!"

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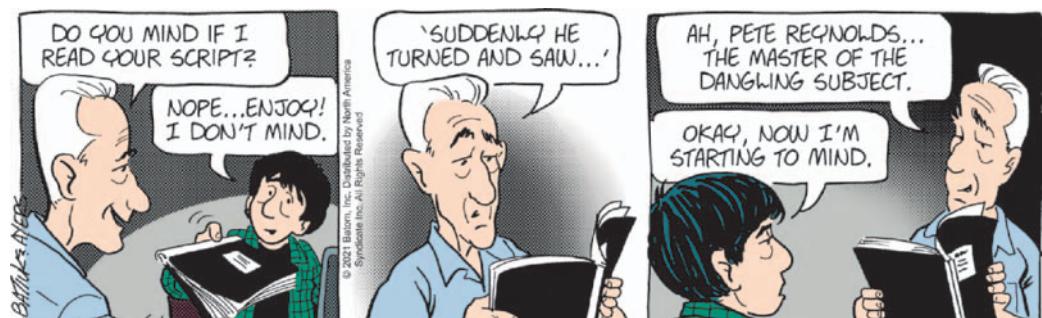
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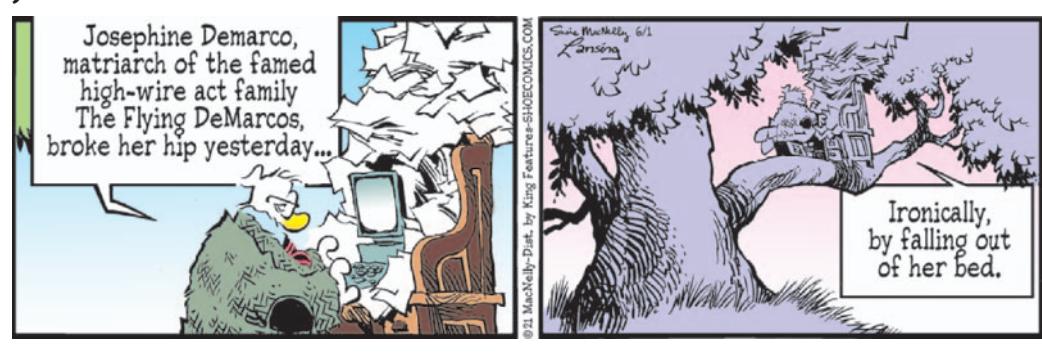
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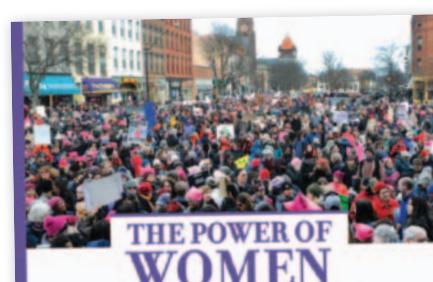
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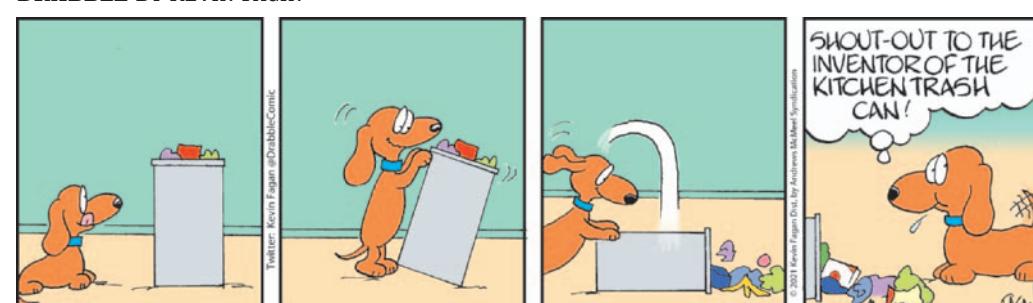
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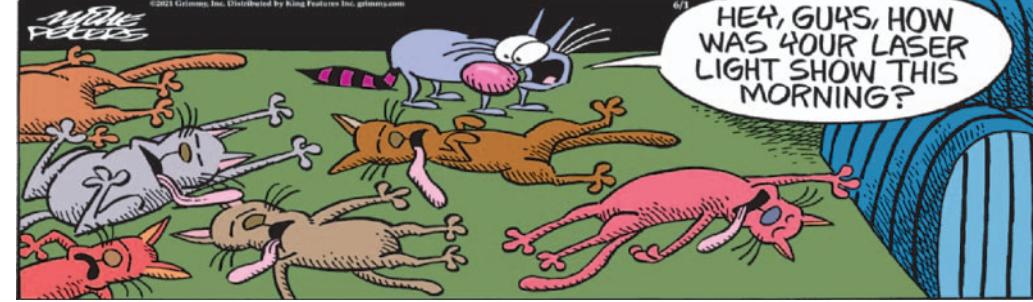
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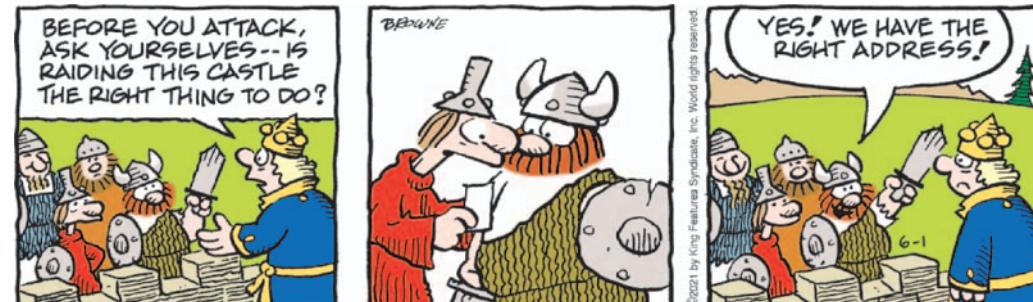
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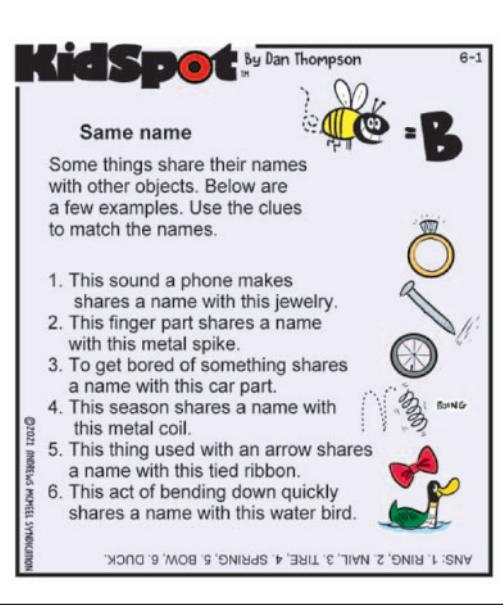
FRED BASSET By ALEX GRAHAM



RHYMES WITH ORANGE By HILARY PRICE



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Some things share their names with other objects. Below are a few examples. Use the clues to match the names.

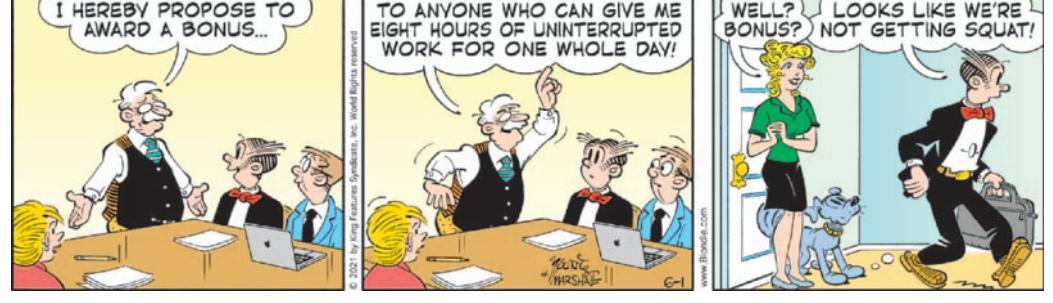
1. This sound a phone makes shares a name with this jewelry.
2. This finger part shares a name with this metal spike.
3. To get bored of something shares a name with this car part.
4. This season shares a name with this metal coil.
5. This thing used with an arrow shares a name with this tied ribbon.
6. This act of bending down quickly shares a name with this water bird.

ANS. 1. RING, 2. NAIL, 3. TIRE, 4. SPRING, 5. BOW, 6. DUCK

GET FUZZY By DARBY CONLEY



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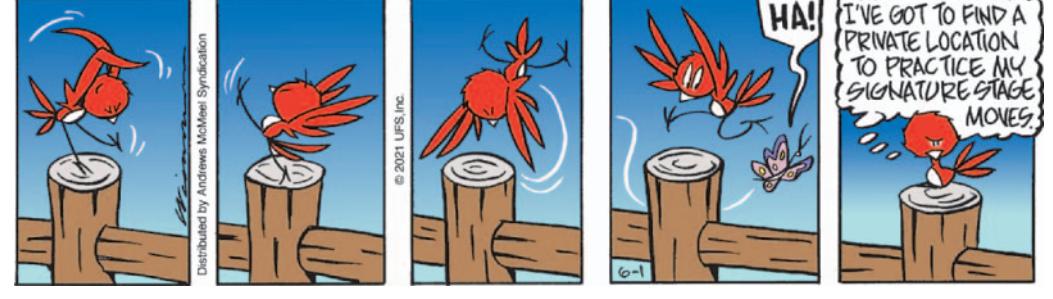
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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 — Mont-gomery of jazz
4 Social position
8 Short-spoken
12 Playing card
13 Colleen's home
14 Garden bloom
15 Keogh relative
16 Tow
17 Shoe part
18 Virginia caverns
20 Certain distances
21 Tuneful
25 Chess player's shout
28 Rolling — (rich)
29 Ultimate degree
32 Takes advantage of
33 Max opposite
34 Debtor's note
35 So-so grade
36 — appetit!"
37 Veld grazers

DOWN

1 Mournful cry
2 Tan shade
3 Singe
4 Change colors
5 Ventilate
6 D.C. gun lobby
7 Nail container

ACROSS

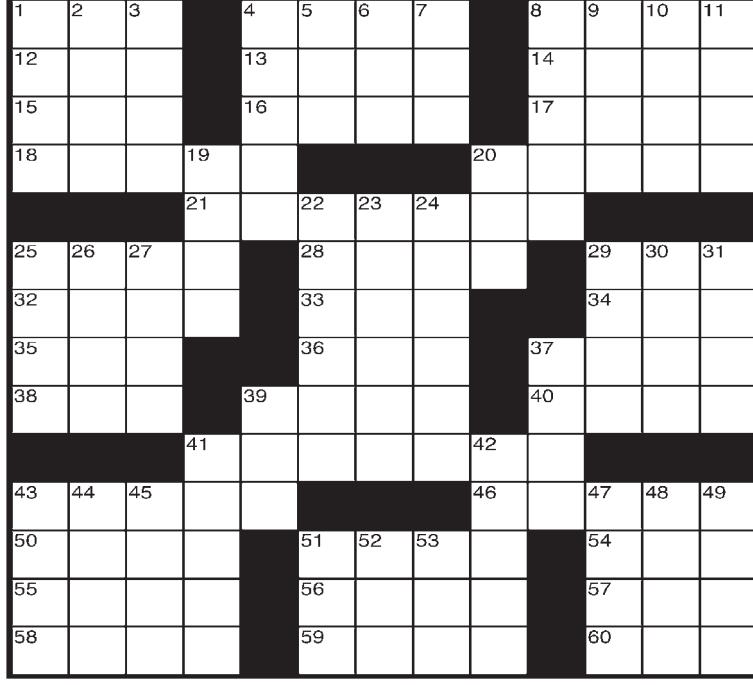
38 Smoke-house hanger
39 Mr. Roddenberry
40 Word of honor
41 Cobble together (hyph.)
43 Eminent
46 Put out a fire
50 Feels crummy
51 First aid plant
54 Balance sheet guru
55 Norwegian port
56 Prefix for "trillion"
57 Musical notes
58 Not fatty
59 Fat fiddle
60 "But is it —?"

DOWN

1 Mournful cry
2 Tan shade
3 Singe
4 Change colors
5 Ventilate
6 D.C. gun lobby
7 Nail container

Answer to Previous Puzzle

W	A	R	F	D	A	N				
A	R	E	C	L	A	I	M	O	B	I
R	A	N	A	L	I	B	I	S	U	P
B	A	T	T	E	D	I	E	T	S	T
H	E	N		J	I	M				
F	A	K	I	R	G	A	S	P	I	N
I	V	A	N		A	R	C	S	O	L
J	E	T		W	O	K	B	A	D	E
I	C	E	B	R	G		P	A	Y	E
J	E	S	S	E	M	U	S	E	M	U
O	R	E	N	E	I	G	H	N	I	B
S	I	L	D	E	R	B	Y	D	E	E
E	E	L		K	E	Y				O



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Papa's mate
5 Writer Harper
8 Blind part
12 Muscat's land
13 Stately tree
14 Had on
15 Screen behind home plate
17 Sea predator
18 Set afire
19 Selfishness
21 Brown shade
24 Ladies of Spain (Abbr.)
25 Low digits
26 Cautionary street sign
30 Chest-beating beast
31 Computers from Taiwan
32 "Shoo!"
33 Words from a risk-taker

DOWN

35 Proscribes
36 Synagogue
37 Like many "Bay-watch" actors
38 Radiation-emitting star
41 Poke
42 Location
43 Returns
48 June 6, 1944
49 First lady?
50 Places
51 Phoenix cagers
52 Enervate
53 "Born Free" lioness

Solution time: 22 mins.

V	A	T	F	R	I	A	R	E	G	O
I	D	O	R	U	M	B	A	L	A	W
M	A	P	L	E	L	E	A	F	M	M
E	E	E	S	A	S	S	E	D		
E	L	P	A	S	O	H	E	A	T	
L	A	I	T	U	G	L	A	R	G	E
S	I	N	S	T	I	S	B	E	A	R
A	T	E	A	T	S	O	N	E	S	S
S	S	R	S	R	S	L	O	A	T	H
S	I	C	K	E	N	I	S	P		
W	O	E	B	I	R	C	H	B	E	E
I	N	N	E	D	D	I	E	T	S	E
G	E	T	K	E	A	T	S	C	C	X

Yesterday's answer 6-1



PUZZLES

DEAR ABBY

Friend deflects unwanted questions by lying

DEAR ABBY: I went to lunch with "Anita," who proceeded to question me about how I know my friend "Gail." It seems like an innocent question, but Gail and I met in Alcoholics Anonymous. I didn't tell Anita we met in AA because it would've destroyed Gail's anonymity, so I said we met through mutual friends.

I didn't mind one question, but Anita kept probing about "mutual friends." I wound up fibbing and saying, "folks at my church." It managed to change the direction of the conversation, but I wish people wouldn't pry like that. This also happens when I'm at a party and someone asks me why I'm not drinking. It's easy to respond to one question with a general answer, but a lot of times I encounter folks who keep pushing.

I would like to encourage your readers to be sensitive to these kinds of situations and to allow people their privacy. Thanks, Abby. — ANONYMOUS AND SOBER IN THE SOUTH

DEAR ANONYMOUS: So would I, and you're welcome. There is no shortage of nosy questions that people don't hesitate to ask these days,

as anyone who has read this column is aware. However, to many people, membership in AA is a badge of honor. When "pushed" to answer why they are not drinking alcohol they are upfront about the fact they are in AA. Of course, one does not have to have a drinking problem to avoid alcohol. Some people refrain because they don't feel well when they drink; others do it because they are taking antibiotics or want to live a healthier lifestyle. The bottom line is, you do not have to answer every question that's asked of you.

DEAR ABBY: When my husband of 19 years died suddenly 15 months ago (we had no children), my financial situation changed considerably. I have had trouble paying bills, and my water was turned off this morning. When I told my siblings and their families, their answers ranged from "I can't help you," to "Gee, that sucks!" to "Come have meatloaf for dinner."

My niece, who is financially well-off, commented that it sucked. I told them all that I HAVE NO WATER. I do have a five-day-a-week job. I just don't have a lot of money because of

so many things that have happened. I'll have the money in a week or so, but I can't live without water for that long.

Is it wrong to want them to offer to help me? Am I expecting too much? If the situation were reversed, I would offer help immediately. — IN A TOUGH SPOT IN KENTUCKY

DEAR TOUGH SPOT: Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your husband. No, it's not wrong to want your relatives to offer to help you out with a bridge loan until the money you're expecting arrives. However, because they didn't offer, ASK them for one, and be willing to sign a note if they wish. Then cross your fingers that one of them agrees. If none of them do, approach your employer and ask for an advance on your salary, or contact the water company and ask if you can strike a deal. I wish you luck.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

If today is your birthday: Show discipline, follow through with your plans, and refuse to let overindulgence and overreaction take control. It's up to you to make the most out of what you have to work with if you want to excel this year. If you work hard, you will end up reaping the rewards.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) - Observation will help you avoid a sticky situation. Don't expect anything from others, and promise only what's possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - Take a chance and try something you've never done. Explore avenues that allow you to use your imagination, and let your creativity flow.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Hang on to your cash. A spending spree won't make you feel better. Do your best to save for something that will benefit you mentally, physically, or financially.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Make a change, but make sure you aren't disrupting someone's life. Honesty, integrity and concern for others will help you gain approval and assistance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - You'll learn plenty if you sit back and observe. Moderation will be the key to success. Focus on education, personal growth and getting along with others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) - Take more time to make your home comfortable. Decluttering your space will make it easier to head in a positive direction.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - Think twice before you share your thoughts and opinions with others. Someone will use your openness to interfere with your plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Don't be fooled by what others say or do. An offer may sound amazing, but will be lacking in the end. Focus on personal changes that will make your life easier.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) - Don't limit what you can do. Take advantage of what's available to you and express your feelings and plans to those who will be affected by your decisions.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) - Get the lowdown before you approach someone who isn't likely to share your opinions or goals. A problem at home will escalate if you try to hide information.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - You'll receive important information from a friendly conversation. Take the high road if someone says something unkind. Patience will help you get your way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Set your sights on what and who can help you get ahead. Show compassion and understanding.

BRIDGE

BY PHILLIP ALDER

Patrick Young, a Scottish scholar and librarian who died in 1652, wrote, "The trouble with weather forecasting is that it's right too often for us to ignore it and wrong too often for us to rely on it."

The trouble with advice in bridge books and newspaper columns is that it is right almost all of the time, but there are always exceptions to the rules, which is why bridge has retained its popularity.

For example, sometimes in a trump contract, your initial problem isn't when to draw trumps but how to use a trump to try to stop an opponent from winning a trick unnecessarily. In today's deal, South is in four spades after West in the auction showed a six-card diamond suit.

West leads the diamond ace: three, four, six. West cashes the diamond king: eight, queen, nine. West continues with the diamond jack. Should declarer ruff low or high on the board?

Note that East does not play high-low with queen-low doubleton. To drop the queen under partner's ace shows either a singleton queen or (much more likely)

North 06-01-21
♦ K 7 6 4
♥ A K 5 2
♦ 8 3
♣ A 4 3

West
♦ 9
♥ 6 4
♦ A K J 7 5 2
♣ 9 8 6 5

East
♦ 10 8
♥ Q J 10 9 7
♦ Q 4
♣ Q J 10

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: Both

South
♦ A Q 5 3 2
♥ 8 3
♦ 10 9 6
♣ K 7 2

South
West
North
East
2♦
Pass
4♣
All Pass

Opening lead: ♦ A

the queen and the jack.

Yes, that was a dirty-trick question! If declarer ruffs low in the dummy, East overruffs, and later South loses a club trick to go down one. If he ruffs high, he will concede both a spade and a club trick. Instead, declarer must discard a club from the dummy -- a loser-on-loser play. He wins the next trick (perhaps overruffing East if West perseveres with a fourth diamond), draws trumps and takes a safe club ruff in the dummy. Declarer's 10 tricks are five spades, two hearts, two clubs and the club ruff.

CRYPTOQUIP

T S H V C U D V Z I P N Q H B H B N H C Y

T H V I I U N H Z , E M U D Q Z Y H H

I S H B N E Z Z E V K H P M S U I S H C

"X V E K S I - X V E K S I ! "

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SPECIALLY CULTIVATED FOODSTUFF THAT'S KNOWN FOR IMPROVING HOCKEY PLAYERS' GAMES: PUCK-WHEAT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals D

ALMANAC

Today is Tuesday, June 2, the 152nd day of 2021 and the 74th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1792, Kentucky was admitted as the 15th U.S. state.

In 1796, Tennessee was admitted as the 16th U.S. state.

In 1980, the Cable News Network (CNN) began broadcasting.

In 2009, General Motors Co. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Brigham Young (1801-1877), religious leader; Andy Griffith (1926-2012), actor; Marilyn Monroe (1926-1962), actress; Pat Boone (1934-), singer-songwriter; Morgan Freeman (1937-), actor; Brian Cox (1946-), actor; Jonathan Pryce (1947-), actor; Ronnie Wood (1947-), guitarist; Powers Boothe (1948-2017), actor; Heidi Klum (1973-), model/TV personality; Alanis Morissette (1974-), singer-songwriter; Amy Schumer (1981-), actress/comedian; Justine Henin (1982-), tennis player; Tom Holland (1996-), actor.

TODAY'S FACT: The Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," released on this day in 1967, was the first rock album to win a Grammy Award for Album of the Year.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1925, Lou Gehrig pinch-hit for the New York Yankees, marking the first game in Gehrig's record-setting streak of 2,130 consecutive games played.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I wish people could achieve what they think would bring them happiness in order for them to realize that that's not really what happiness is." — Alanis Morissette

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SNWGU

○ ○ ○ ○

TMEEH

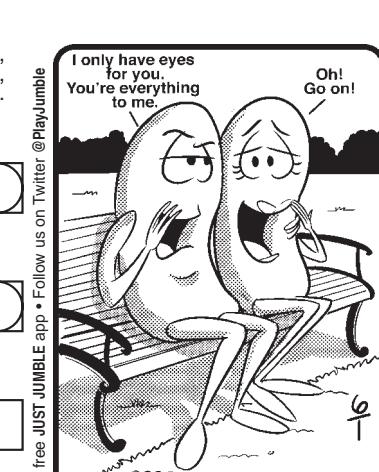
○ ○ ○ ○

TGIEWH

○ ○ ○ ○

SRNTOG

○ ○ ○ ○



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.</